

# Applying filters to SQL queries

This was a mock scenario investigating failed login attempts from employees and company machines at a large organization with multiple regional offices. To parse for logins, I'm using SQL to examine log files to determine an initial root cause.

## Retrieve after hours failed login attempts

```
SELECT *  
FROM log_in_attempts  
WHERE login_time > '18:00' AND success = FALSE;
```

I used the > operator to filter out logins after 18:00 which is afterhours for the organization. Also included the AND operator to filter out the unsuccessful logins

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

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

```
SELECT *  
FROM log_in_attempts  
WHERE login_date = '2022-05-09' OR login_date = '2022-05-08';
```

Using the OR operator, I was able to filter out login attempts down to these two specific dates

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

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

## Retrieve login attempts outside of Mexico

```
SELECT *  
FROM log_in_attempts  
WHERE NOT country LIKE 'MEX%';
```

I used the NOT function to filter out login attempts from outside of Mexico. Because some formatting of the country in the table is MEX, I used the MEX% to ensure I don't miss any filtered attempts

```
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

```
SELECT *  
FROM employees  
WHERE department = 'Marketing' AND office LIKE 'East%';
```

To retrieve employees in the Marketing department of the East offices, I included the AND operator to filter out both departments and LIKE with East% to pull from all offices including East in the table itself.

```
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

## Retrieve employees in Finance or Sales

```
SELECT *  
FROM employees  
WHERE department = 'Finance' OR department = 'Sales';
```

I used the OR function to filter out employees only in the Finance and Sales departments.

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

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

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE NOT department = 'Information Technology';
```

I used NOT to filter out employees not in the IT department from the employees database.

```
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

To investigate the security issue at the large company, I used SQL to examine the log files from all of the East regional offices. Despite the size, I was able to use SQL filters to make the investigation move swiftly.

- It was found that there were 19 failed login attempts after 18:00 on 2022-05-08 & 2022-05-09
- It was determined that the login attempts were made outside of Mexico
- Patching needs to be proposed to the change management team

This document describes how the tables used for this mock scenario are organized. The organization database contains the following two tables:

- log\_in\_attempts
- employees

## log\_in\_attempts

The log\_in\_attempts table has the following columns:

- event\_id: The identification number assigned to each login event
- username: The username of the employee
- login\_date: The date the login attempt was recorded
- login\_time: The time the login attempt was recorded
- country: The country where the login attempt occurred
- ip\_address: The IP address of that employee's machine
- success: The success of the login attempt; FALSE indicates a failed attempt

In the MariaDB shell, these columns are returned as:

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| event_id | username | login_date | login_time | country | ip_address | success |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```

## employees

The employees table has the following columns:

- employee\_id: The identification number assigned to each employee
- device\_id: The identification number assigned to each device used by the employee
- username: The username of the employee
- department: The department the employee is in
- office: The office the employee is located in

In the MariaDB shell, these columns are returned as:

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| employee_id | device_id | username | department | office |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```