

Apply filters to SQL queries

Project description

My organization is working on making its system more secure. My job is to investigate security issues to help keep the system secure and investigate potential security issues. The following steps show how I used SQL filters to perform security tasks.

Retrieve after-hours failed login attempts

There was a potential security incident that occurred after business hours (18:00). All the after-hours login activities have failed.

The following code demonstrates how I create a SQL query to filter for failed login attempts that occurred after business hours.

```
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
28	aestrada	2022-05-09	19:28:12	MEXICO	192.168.27.57	0
34	drosas	2022-05-11	21:02:04	US	192.168.45.93	0

The first part of the screenshot is my query, and the second part is the output. This portion filters the failed login attempts made after business hours 18:00. First, I started by selecting all data from the `log_in_attempts`. Then, I used the `WHERE` clause and `AND` operator to filter my results to output only login attempts that occurred after 18:00 and were unsuccessful. The first condition is `login_time > '18:00'`, which filters for the login attempts after 18:00. The second condition is `success = FALSE`, which filters the failed login attempts.

131	bisles	2022-05-09	20:03:55	US	192.168.113.171	0
155	cgriffin	2022-05-12	22:18:42	USA	192.168.236.176	0
160	jclark	2022-05-10	20:49:00	CANADA	192.168.214.49	0
199	yappiah	2022-05-11	19:34:48	MEXICO	192.168.44.232	0

19 rows in set (0.002 sec)

19 logins occurred after 18:00.

Retrieve login attempts on specific dates

A suspicious event occurred on 2022-05-09. Any login activity that happened on 2022-05-09 or on the day before needs to be investigated.

The following code demonstrates how I created an SQL query to filter for login attempts that occurred on 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	1
3	dkot	2022-05-09	06:47:41	USA	192.168.151.162	1
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
12	dkot	2022-05-08	09:11:34	USA	192.168.100.158	1

The first part of the screenshot is my query, and the second part is a portion of the output. This query returns all login attempts that occurred on 2022-05-09 or 2022-05-08. First, I started by selecting all data from the `log_in_attempts` table. Then, I used a `WHERE` clause with an `OR` operator to filter my results to output only login attempts that occurred on either 2022-05-09 or 2022-05-08. The first condition is `login_date = '2022-05-09'`, which filters for logins on 2022-05-09. The second condition is `login_date = '2022-05-08'`, which filters for logins on 2022-05-08.

190	jsoto	2022-05-09	05:09:21	USA	192.168.25.60	0
191	cjackson	2022-05-08	06:46:07	CANADA	192.168.7.187	0
193	lrodriqu	2022-05-08	07:11:29	US	192.168.125.240	0
197	jsoto	2022-05-08	09:05:09	US	192.168.36.21	0

75 rows in set (0.003 sec)

On the two days, there were 75 login attempts.

Retrieve login attempts outside of Mexico

After investigating the organization's data on login attempts, I believe there is an issue with the login attempts that occurred outside of Mexico. These login attempts should be investigated. The following code demonstrates how I created a SQL query to filter for login attempts that occurred outside of Mexico.

```
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	1
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	1
4	dkot	2022-05-08	02:00:39	USA	192.168.178.71	0
5	jrafael	2022-05-11	03:05:59	CANADA	192.168.86.232	0

The first part of the screenshot is my query, and the second part is a portion of the output. This query returns all login attempts that occurred in countries other than Mexico. First, I started by selecting all data from the `log_in_attempts` table. Then, I used a `WHERE` clause with `NOT` to filter for countries other than Mexico. I used `LIKE` with `MEX%` as the pattern to match because the dataset represents Mexico as `MEX` and `MEXICO`. The percentage sign (%) represents any number of unspecified characters when used with `LIKE`.

193	lrodriqu	2022-05-08	07:11:29	US	192.168.125.240	0
194	jclark	2022-05-12	14:11:04	CAN	192.168.197.247	0
195	alevitsk	2022-05-11	06:59:13	CANADA	192.168.236.78	1
196	acook	2022-05-10	09:56:48	CAN	192.168.52.90	0
197	jsoto	2022-05-08	09:05:09	US	192.168.36.21	0
200	jclark	2022-05-12	01:11:45	CANADA	192.168.91.103	1

144 rows in set (0.001 sec)

There were 144 login attempts outside Mexico.

Retrieve employees in Marketing

My team wants to update the computers for certain employees in the Marketing department. To do this, I must get information on which employee machines to update.

The following code demonstrates how I created a SQL query to filter for employee machines from employees in the Marketing department in the East building.

```

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 (0.001 sec)

```

The first part of the screenshot is my query, and the second part is a portion of the output. This query returns all employees in the Marketing department in the East building. First, I started by selecting all data from the `employees` table. Then, I used a `WHERE` clause with `AND` to filter for employees who work in the Marketing department and the East building. I used `LIKE` with `East%` as the pattern to match because the data in the office column represents the East building with the specific office number. The first condition is the `department = 'Marketing'` portion, which filters for employees in the Marketing department. The second condition is the `office LIKE 'East%'` portion, which filters for employees in the East building.

Retrieve employees in Finance or Sales

The machines for employees in the Finance and Sales departments also need to be updated. Since a different security update is needed, I have to get information on employees only from these two departments.

The following code demonstrates how I created a SQL query to filter for employee machines from employees in the Finance or 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 |
| 1009 | NULL | lrodriqu | Sales | South-134 |
| 1010 | k242l212m542 | jlansky | Finance | South-109 |
| 1011 | l748m120n401 | drosas | Sales | South-292 |
| 1015 | p611q262r945 | jsoto | Finance | North-271 |
| 1017 | r550s824t230 | jclark | Finance | North-188 |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+

```

The first part of the screenshot is my query, and the second part is a portion of the output. This query returns all employees in the Finance and Sales departments. First, I started by selecting all data from the `employees` table. Then, I used a `WHERE` clause with `OR` to filter for employees who are in the Finance and Sales departments. I used the `OR` operator instead of `AND` because I want all employees who are in either department. The first condition is `department = 'Finance'`, which filters for employees from the Finance department. The second condition is `department = 'Sales'`, which filters for employees from the Sales department.

Retrieve all employees not in IT

My team needs to make one more security update on employees who are not in the Information Technology department. To make the update, I first have to get information on these employees. The following demonstrates how I created a SQL query to filter for employee machines from employees not in the Information Technology 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
1003	d394e816f943	sgilmore	Finance	South-153
1004	e218f877g788	eraab	Human Resources	South-127

The first part of the screenshot is my query, and the second part is a portion of the output. The query returns all employees not in the Information Technology department. First, I started by selecting all data from the `employees` table. Then, I used a `WHERE` clause with `NOT` to filter for employees not in this department.

1190	NULL	kcarter	Marketing	Central-270
1191	NULL	shakimi	Marketing	Central-366
1194	m340n287o441	zwarren	Human Resources	West-212
1195	n516o853p957	orainier	Finance	East-346
1198	q308r573s459	jmartine	Marketing	South-117
1199	r520s571t459	areyes	Human Resources	East-100

```
161 rows in set (0.001 sec)
```

A 161 employees were not in the Information Technology department.

Summary

I applied filters to SQL queries to get specific information on login attempts and employee machines. I used two different tables, `log_in_attempts` and `employees`. 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.