

Athena Query Cheat Sheet

This cheat sheet provides AWS Athena queries to assist during the training labs.

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> Querying Basics

Querying a table

To query data, you first need to specify the table name you want to explore.

```
SELECT *
FROM ctf1_cloudtrail_logs
```

Querying the table without any filters or operations will return all rows and columns from the **ctf1_cloudtrail_logs** table.

Using LIMIT to limit the number of rows

The **LIMIT** clause is used to restrict the number of rows returned in the query result. This is useful when you only want to see a subset of the data.

```
SELECT *
FROM ctf1_cloudtrail_logs
LIMIT 10
```

This query returns the first 10 rows from the specified table.

Selecting specific columns

The **SELECT** statement is used to specify the columns you want to include in your results. This is useful when you only need to display or analyze certain columns from a table.

```
SELECT eventtime, eventSource, sourceipaddress
FROM ctf1_cloudtrail_logs
```

In this query, the **SELECT** statement retrieves and displays only the columns **eventtime**, **eventSource**, and **sourceipaddress** from the **ctf1_cloudtrail_logs** table.

> Filtering Data

Where clause

Use the **WHERE** clause to filter data based on a condition. This allows you to focus on specific rows that match the criteria.

```
SELECT eventtime, eventSource, eventName, sourceipaddress
FROM ctf1_cloudtrail_logs
WHERE eventSource = 'iam.amazonaws.com'
```

This query will return all rows where the **eventSource** is **iam.amazonaws.com**.

LIKE operator

The **LIKE** operator in Athena is used for searching partial matches in a specific column. It allows you to find the occurrence of a value or pattern within the data in a column.

```
SELECT eventtime, eventSource, eventName, sourceipaddress
FROM ctf1_cloudtrail_logs
WHERE sourceipaddress LIKE '%192.168%'
```

This query filters rows where the **sourceipaddress** column contains the substring "192.168". The % symbols act as wildcards, meaning that it will match anything before or after 192.168.

Using subfields

To extract values from subfields in AWS Athena, you can directly query a nested or structured field. This allows you to work with specific properties that are part of a more complex field.

```
SELECT useridentity.arn
FROM ctf1_cloudtrail_logs
```

In this query, **useridentity.arn** is used to extract the **arn** value from the **useridentity** field in the **ctf1_cloudtrail_logs** table.

Ordering results by eventtime

The **ORDER BY** clause is used to sort the results of a query by a specific column, either in ascending or descending order. This is useful when you need to analyze data over time or prioritize certain records.

```
SELECT eventtime, eventSource, eventName, sourceipaddress
FROM ctf1_cloudtrail_logs
ORDER BY eventtime ASC
```

This query retrieves data from the **ctf1_cloudtrail_logs** table and sorts the results by the **eventtime** field in ascending order (**ASC**). To sort in descending order, use **DESC** instead.

> Counting

Counting rows with COUNT

The **COUNT** function is used to return the total number of rows that match a specific condition.

```
SELECT COUNT(*)
FROM ctf1_cloudtrail_logs
WHERE eventSource = 'guardduty.amazonaws.com'
```

This query counts the total number of rows in the **ctf1_cloudtrail_logs** table where the **eventSource** is **'guardduty.amazonaws.com'**.

Summarize data

You can use aggregate functions like **SUM**, **AVG**, **MIN**, **MAX**, and **COUNT** to summarize data. This is helpful when you want to calculate metrics like totals, averages, or other statistics for your dataset.

```
SELECT eventSource, COUNT(*) AS total_events
FROM ctf1_cloudtrail_logs GROUP BY eventSource
```

In this query, the **COUNT(*)** function is used to count the total number of events for each **eventSource**.

> Important CloudTrail fields

Column name	Description
useridentity	Contains details about the identity that made the request, including the type (e.g., IAM user, root) and ARN.
eventtime	The time when the event occurred.
eventname	The specific action that was performed, like StartInstances or CreateUser.
sourceipaddress	The IP address from where the request was made.
useragent	Information about the requester's environment, such as browser or tool used.
eventSource	The AWS service where the event originated, such as ec2.amazonaws.com or guardduty.amazonaws.com.

