Start-Tech Academy

Pattern Matching

Methods

1. LIKE statements

2. SIMILAR TO statements

3. ~ (Regular Expressions)

LIKE WILDCARDS

The PostgreSQL LIKE condition allows you to perform pattern matching using Wildcards.

LIKE Wildcards

Wildcard	Explanation
%	Allows you to match any string of any length (including zero length)
_	Allows you to match on a single character

A% means starts with A like ABC or ABCDE

%A means anything that ends with A

A%B means starts with A but ends with B

AB_C means string starts with AB, then there is one character, then there is C

LIKE

The PostgreSQL LIKE condition allows you to perform pattern matching using Wildcards.

Example

```
SELECT * FROM customer_table
WHERE first_name LIKE 'Jo%';


SELECT * FROM customer_table
WHERE first_name LIKE '%od%';


SELECT first_name, last_name FROM customer_table
WHERE first_name LIKE 'Jas_n';


SELECT first_name, last_name FROM customer_table
WHERE last_name NOT LIKE 'J%';


SELECT * FROM customer_table
WHERE last_name LIKE 'G\%';
```

WILDCARDS

REG-EX Wildcards

Wildcard	Explanation
|	Denotes alternation (either of two alternatives).
*	Denotes repetition of the previous item zero or more times
+	Denotes repetition of the previous item one or more times.
?	Denotes repetition of the previous item zero or one time.
{m}	denotes repetition of the previous item exactly m times.
{m,}	denotes repetition of the previous item m or more times.
{m,n}	denotes repetition of the previous item at least m and not more than n times
^,$	^ denotes start of the string, $ denotes start of the string
[chars]	a *bracket expression*, matching any one of the chars
~*	~ means case sensitive and ~* means case insensitive

~ OPERATOR

Example

SELECT * FROM customer
WHERE customer_name ~* '^a+[a-z\s]+$'

SELECT * FROM customer
WHERE customer_name ~* '^(a|b|c|d)+[a-z\s]+$'

SELECT * FROM customer
WHERE customer_name ~* '^(a|b|c|d)[a-z]{3}\s[a-z]{4}$' ;

SELECT * FROM users
WHERE name ~* '[a-z0-9\.\-_]+@[a-z0-9\-]+\.[a-z]{2,5}';