Apply filters to SQL queries

Project description

The management at my organization asked me to investigate potential security issues and update employee computers as needed.

My task was to examine the organization's data in their employees and log_in_attempts tables. I needed to use SQL filters to retrieve records from different datasets and investigate the potential security issues.

Retrieve after hours failed login attempts

There were suspicious activities that occurred after business hours (after 18:00). All after hours login attempts that failed need to be investigated.
I created a SQL query on MariaDB 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 |
|       42 | cgriffin | 2022-05-09 | 23:04:05   | US      | 192.168.4.157   |       0 |
|       52 | cjackson | 2022-05-10 | 22:07:07   | CAN     | 192.168.58.57   |       0 |
|       69 | wjaffrey | 2022-05-11 | 19:55:15   | USA     | 192.168.100.17  |       0 |
|       82 | abernard | 2022-05-12 | 23:38:46   | MEX     | 192.168.234.49  |       0 |
|       87 | apatel   | 2022-05-08 | 22:38:31   | CANADA  | 192.168.132.153 |       0 |
|       96 | ivelasco | 2022-05-09 | 22:36:36   | CAN     | 192.168.84.194  |       0 |
|      104 | asundara | 2022-05-11 | 18:38:07   | US      | 192.168.96.200  |       0 |
|      107 | bisles   | 2022-05-12 | 20:25:57   | USA     | 192.168.116.187 |       0 |
|      111 | aestrada | 2022-05-10 | 22:00:26   | MEXICO  | 192.168.76.27   |       0 |
|      127 | abellmas | 2022-05-09 | 21:20:51   | CANADA  | 192.168.70.122  |       0 |
|      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, 1 warning (0.314 sec)
```

Retrieve login attempts on specific dates

My team investigated a suspicious event that occurred on '*2022-05-09*'. I wanted to retrieve all login attempts that occurred on this day and the day before ('2022-05-08'). The

`login_date` column in the `log_in_attempts` table contained information on the dates when login attempts were made.

```
MariaDB [organization]> clear
MariaDB [organization]> SELECT *
    ->
    -> FROM log_in_attempts
    ->
    -> WHERE login_date = '2022-05-08' OR login_date = '2022-05-09';
+----------+----------+------------+------------+---------+-----------------+---------+
| 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 |
|      187 | arusso   | 2022-05-09 | 00:36:26   | MEX     | 192.168.77.137  |       0 |
|      189 | nmason   | 2022-05-08 | 05:37:24   | CANADA  | 192.168.168.117 |       1 |
|      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 (0.001 sec)

MariaDB [organization]>
```

Retrieve login attempts outside of Mexico

After investigating the data and following the pattern, I strongly indicated that login attempts outside of Mexico should be investigated.

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 |
|      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 (0.002 sec)

MariaDB [organization]>
```

Retrieve employees in Marketing

My team wanted to update certain computers across departments. 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 | k8651965m233 | 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)

MariaDB [organization]>
```

Retrieve employees in Finance or Sales

Across departments, a lot of employee data needed to be updated. I created a SQL query to filter for employee machines belonging to 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   |
|        1186 | e281f433g404 | sacosta  | Sales      | North-460   |
|        1187 | f963g637h851 | bbode    | Finance    | East-351    |
|        1188 | g164h566i795 | noshiro  | Finance    | West-252    |
|        1195 | n516o853p957 | orainier | Finance    | East-346    |
+-------------+--------------+----------+------------+-------------+
71 rows in set (0.001 sec)

MariaDB [organization]>
```

Retrieve all employees not in IT

My team needed to make one more update. This update had already been made to employee computers in the Information Technology department. The team needed information about employees who were not in that department.

I created a SQL query to filter for employee machines belonging to employees who were 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   |
```

```
|        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)

MariaDB [organization]>
```

Summary

As a security analyst, I often needed to analyze data. Finding the specific data I needed frequently depended on multiple factors.

To retrieve specific pieces of information from the database, I could filter for multiple conditions. I could also filter for what did not match a particular condition.

In this task, I used the AND, OR, and NOT operators to filter for the specific information I needed, as well as the LIKE operator and the (%) sign to filter for patterns. I used these operators to create more complex filters for my SQL queries.