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or running command

./bin/cake plugin load Search

Usage

The plugin has three main parts which you will need to configure and include in your application.

Table class

There are three tasks during setup in your table class. Firstly you must add a use statement for the Search\Manager. Next you need to attach the search behaviour to your table class. Then you have two options to work with the search filters:

The first way is the prefered way as it works the same as many core classes as well. In your table classes initialize() method call the searchManager() method, it will return a search manager instance. You can now add filters to the manager by chaining them. The first arg of the add() method is the field, the second the filter using the dot notation of cake to load filters from plugins. The third one is an array of filter specific options.

```
use Search\Manager;
class ExampleTable extends Table {
    public function initialize(array $config)
        parent::initialize();
        // Add the behaviour to your table
        $this->addBehavior('Search.Search');
        $this->searchManager()
            ->add('author_id', 'Search.Value')
            // Here we will alias the 'q' query param to search the `Articles.title`
            // field and the `Articles.content` field, using a LIKE match, with `%`
            // both before and after.
            ->add('q', 'Search.Like', [
                'before' => true,
                'field' => [$this->aliasField('title'), $this->aliasField('content')]
            ->add('foo', 'Search.Callback', [
                'callback' => function ($query, $args, $manager) {
                    // Modify $query as required
            ]);
    }
```

The old way is to add a searchConfiguration() method to the class. The behavior will look if such a method exists and if yes use it to get the search manager instance from it. This method must return a search manager instance.

If you want to change the name of the method, or have multiple methods and switch between them, you can configure the name of the method by setting the behaviors option searchConfigMethod to the name of the method you want.

```
use Search\Manager;
class ExampleTable extends Table {
    public function initialize(array $config)
```

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```
}
// Configure how you want the search plugin to work with this table class
public function searchConfiguration()
   $search = new Manager($this)
       ->value('author_id', [
           'field' => $this->aliasField('author_id')
       // Here we will alias the 'q' query param to search the `Articles.title`
       // field and the `Articles.content` field, using a LIKE match, with `%`
       // both before and after.
       ->like('q', [
           'before' => true.
           'after' => true,
           'field' => [$this->aliasField('title'), $this->aliasField('content')]
       ])
       ->callback('foo', [
           'callback' => function ($query, $args, $manager) {
               // Modify $query as required
       ]);
   return $search;
```

Controller class

In order for the Search plugin to work it will need to process the query params which are passed in your url. So you will need to edit your index method to accomodate this.

```
public function index()
    $query = $this->Articles
        // Use the plugins 'search' custom finder and pass in the
        // processed query params
        ->find('search', $this->Articles->filterParams($this->request->query))
        // You can add extra things to the query if you need to
        ->contain(['Comments'])
        ->where(['title IS NOT' => null]);
    $this->set('articles', $this->paginate($query));
}
```

The search finder and the filterParams() method are dynamically provided by the Search behavior.

Component

Then add the Search Prg component to the necessary methods in your controller.

Make sure,

- That you add this in the controller's initialize() method.
- That you only add the methods which are using search, such as your index() method.

```
public function initialize()
    parent::initialize();
    $this->loadComponent('Search.Prg', [
```

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The Search.Prg component will allow your filtering forms to be populated using the data in the query params. It uses the Post, redirect, get pattern.

Filtering your data

Once you have completed all the setup you can now filter your data by passing query params in your index method. Using the Article example given above, you could filter your articles using the following.

```
example.com/articles?q=cakephp
```

Would filter your list of articles to any article with "cakephp" in the title or content field. You might choose to make a get form which posts the filter directly to the url, but if you're using the Search.Prg component, you'll want to use POST.

Creating your form

In most cases you'll want to add a form to your index view which will search your data.

```
echo $this->Form->create();
// You'll need to populate $authors in the template from your controller
echo $this->Form->input('author_id');
// Match the search param in your table configuration
echo $this->Form->input('q');
echo $this->Form->button('Filter', ['type' => 'submit']);
echo $this->Html->link('Reset', ['action' => 'index']);
echo $this->Form->end();
```

If you are using the Search.Prg component the forms current values will be populated from the query params.

Filters

The Search plugin comes with a set of predefined search filters that allow you to easily create the search results you need. Use:

- · value to limit results to exact matches
- like to produce results containing the search query (LIKE or ILIKE)
- · finder to produce results using a (custom) finder
- compare to produce results requiring operator comparison (> , < , >= and <=)
- callback to produce results using your own custom callable function

Optional fields

Sometimes you might want to search your data based on two of three inputs in your form. You can use the filterEmpty search option to ignore any empty fields.

```
// ExampleTable.php
// Inside your searchConfiguration() method
   $search->value('author_id', [
        'filterEmpty' => true
    ]);
```

Be sure to allow empty in your search form, if you're using one.

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