





















Operators: transformation				
A <b>transformation</b> can be u	sed to normalize the values prior to comparison.			
Function and parameters	Description			
removeBlanks	Remove whitespace from a string.			
removeSpecialChars	Remove special characters (including punctuation) from a strin			
IowerCase	Convert a string to lower case.			
upperCase	Convert a string to upper case.			
capitalize(allWords)	Capitalizes the string i.e. converts the first character to upper case. If 'allWords' is set to true, all words are capitalized and only the first character. By default 'allWords' is set to false.			
stem	Apply word stemming to the string.			
alphaReduce	Strip all non-alphabetic characters from a string.			
numReduce	Strip all non-numeric characters from a string.			
replace(string search, string replace)	Replace all occurrences of "search" with "replace" in a string.			
egexReplace(string regex, string replace)	Replace all occurrences of a regex "regex" with "replace" in a string.			



#### **Operators: transformations**

	stripPrefix	Strip the prefix from a string.	
	stripPostfix	Strip the postfix from a string.	
	stripUriPrefix	Strip the URI prefix (e.g. http://dbpedia.org/resource/) from a string.	
	concat	Concatenates strings from two inputs.	
	logarithm([base])	Transforms all numbers by applying the logarithm function.  Non-numeric values are left unchanged. If base is not defined it defaults to 10.	
conv	vert(string sourceCharset, string targetCharset)	Converts the string from "sourceCharset" to "targetCharset"	
	tokenize([regex])	Splits the string into tokens. Splits at all matches of "regex" if provided and at whitespaces otherwise.	
	removeValues(blacklist)	Removes specific values (i.e. stop words) from the value set. 'blacklist' is a comma-separated list of words.	

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## **Operators: comparators**

- A comparison operator evaluates two inputs and computes the similarity based on a user-defined distance measure and a user-defined threshold.
- The distance measure always outputs 0 for a perfect match, and a higher value for an imperfect match.
- Only distance values between 0 and threshold will result in a positive similarity score.
- Therefore it is important to know how the distance measures work and what the range of their output values is in order to set a threshold value sensibly.



# **Operators: comparators**

• **Parameters**: Every time we use a comparator we need to set up some parameters

Parameter	Description	
required (optional)	If required is true, the parent aggregation only yields a confidence value if the given inputs have values for both instances.	
weight (optional)	Weight of this comparison. The weight is used by some aggregations such as the weighted average aggregation.	
threshold	The maximum distance. For normalized distance measur the threshold should be between 0.0 and 1.0.	
Inputs	The 2 inputs for the comparison.	

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## **Operators: comparators**

- · Character-based distance metrics:
  - compare strings on the character level.
    - They are well suited for handling typographical errors

Measure	Description	Normalized
levenshteinDistance	Levenshtein distance. The minimum number of edits needed to transform one string into the other, with the allowable edit operations being insertion, deletion, or substitution of a single character	No
levenshtein	The levensthein distance normalized to the interval [0,1]	Yes
jaro	Jaro distance metric. Simple distance metric originally developed to compare person names.	Yes
jaroWinkler	Jaro-Winkler distance measure. The Jaro-Winkler distance metric is designed and best suited for short strings such as person names	Yes
equality	0 if strings are equal, 1 otherwise.	Yes
inequality	1 if strings are equal, 0 otherwise.	Yes



# **Operators: comparators**

- Token-based distance metrics:
  - Suitable for other cases, for example:
    - Strings where parts are reordered e.g. "John Doe" and "Doe, John"
    - Texts consisting of multiple words

Measure	Description	Normalized
jaccard	Jaccard distance coefficient	Yes
dice	Dice distance coefficient	Yes
softjaccard	Soft jaccard similarity coefficient. Same as Jaccard distance but values within a Levenstein distance of maxDistance are considered equivalent.	Yes

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## **Operators: comparators**

- Special purpose distance metrics:
  - to compare specific types of data e.g. numeric values.

Measure	Description	Normalized
num(float minValue, float maxValue)	Computes the numeric difference between two numbers Parameters: minValue, maxValue The minimum and maximum values which occur in the datasource	No
date	Computes the distance between two dates	No
dateTime	Computes the distance between two date time values	No
wgs84(string unit, string curveStyle)	Computes the geographical distance between two points.	No



#### **Operators: aggregators**

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- Only distance values between 0 and threshold will result in a positive similarity score.
- Therefore it is important to know how the distance measures work and what the range of their output values is in order to set a threshold value sensibly.

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## **Appendix: Installation guide**

- It can be found at:
  - https://www.assembla.com/spaces/silk/wiki/Silk\_Workbench