

# DOUBLEMETAPHONEEQUALS Function

## Contents:

- *Basic Usage*
- *Syntax and Arguments*
  - *string\_ref1, string\_ref2*
  - *match\_threshold*
- *Examples*
  - *Example - Phonetic string comparisons*

Compares two input strings using the Double Metaphone algorithm. An optional threshold parameter can be modified to adjust the tolerance for matching.

The Double Metaphone algorithm processes an input string render a primary and secondary spelling for it. For English language words, the algorithm removes silent letters, normalizes combinations of characters to a single definition, and removes vowels, except from the beginnings of words. In this manner, the algorithm can normalize inconsistencies between spellings for better matching. For more information, see <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metaphone>.

**Tip:** This function is useful for performing fuzzy matching between string values, such as between potential join key values.

Source values can be string literals, column references, or expressions that evaluate to strings.

## Basic Usage

### String literal reference example:

```
doublemetaphoneequals('My String', 'my string')
```

**Output:** Returns the value `true`.

### Column reference example:

```
doublemetaphoneequals(string1, string2, 'weak')
```

**Output:** Returns the comparison of `string1` and `string2` column values using the Double Metaphone algorithm. The 'weak' parameter input means that only the secondary encodings for each input must match.

## Syntax and Arguments

```
doublemetaphoneequals(string_ref1, string_ref2, match_threshold)
```

Argument	Required?	Data Type	Description
string_ref1	Y	string	Name of first column or string literal to apply to the function
string_ref2	Y	string	Name of second column or string literal to apply to the function

match_thresh old	N	string	Optional string value for the matching threshold to use in the comparison. Default value is <code>Normal</code> .
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For more information on syntax standards, see *Language Documentation Syntax Notes*.

### **string\_ref1, string\_ref2**

String literal, column reference, or expression whose elements you want to filter through the Double Metaphone algorithm.

#### **Usage Notes:**

Required?	Data Type	Example Value
Yes	String literal, column reference, or expression evaluating to a string	myString1

### **match\_threshold**

String literal identifying the threshold that determines a match according to the Double Metaphone encodings of the input strings. Accepted values:

Threshold Value	Description
'strong'	The primary encodings of the two input strings must match.
'normal'	(Default) The primary encoding of one input string must match either of the encodings of the other input string.
'weak'	Either primary or secondary encoding of one input string must match either encoding of the other input string.

#### **Usage Notes:**

Required?	Data Type	Example Value
Yes	String literal	'strong'

### **Examples**

**Tip:** For additional examples, see *Common Tasks*.

### **Example - Phonetic string comparisons**

This example illustrates how the following Double Metaphone algorithm functions operate in Trifacta® Wrangler Enterprise.

- `DOUBLEMETAPHONE` - Computes a primary and secondary phonetic encoding for an input string. Encodings are returned as a two-element array. See *DOUBLEMETAPHONE Function*.
- `DOUBLEMETAPHONEEQUALS` - Compares two input strings using the Double Metaphone algorithm. Returns `true` if they phonetically match. See *DOUBLEMETAPHONEEQUALS Function*.

#### **Source:**

The following table contains some example strings to be compared.

string1	string2	notes
My String	my string	comparison is case-insensitive
judge	juge	typo
knock	nock	silent letters
white	wite	missing letters
record	record	two different words in English but match the same
pair	pear	these match but are different words.
bookkeeper	book keeper	spaces cause failures in comparison
test1	test123	digits are not compared
the end.	the end....	punctuation differences do not matter.
a elephant	an elephant	a and an are treated differently.

### Transformation:

You can use the `DOUBLEMETAPHONE` function to generate phonetic spellings, as in the following:

<b>Transformation Name</b>	New formula
<b>Parameter: Formula type</b>	Single row formula
<b>Parameter: Formula</b>	<code>DOUBLEMETAPHONE(string1)</code>
<b>Parameter: New column name</b>	'dblmeta_s1'

You can compare `string1` and `string2` using the `DOUBLEMETAPHONEEQUALS` function:

<b>Transformation Name</b>	New formula
<b>Parameter: Formula type</b>	Single row formula
<b>Parameter: Formula</b>	<code>DOUBLEMETAPHONEEQUALS(string1, string2, 'normal')</code>
<b>Parameter: New column name</b>	'compare'

### Results:

The following table contains some example strings to be compared.

string1	dblmeta_s1	string2	compare	Notes
My String	["MSTRNK","MSTRNK"]	my string	TRUE	comparison is case-insensitive
judge	["JJ","AJ"]	juge	TRUE	typo
knock	["NK","NK"]	nock	TRUE	silent letters
white	["AT","AT"]	wite	TRUE	missing letters
record	["RKRT","RKRT"]	record	TRUE	two different words in English but match the same
pair	["PR","PR"]	pear	TRUE	these match but are different words.
bookkeeper	["PKPR","PKPR"]	book keeper	FALSE	spaces cause failures in comparison

test1	["TST","TST"]	test123	TRUE	digits are not compared
the end.	["0NT","TNT"]	the endâ€¦.	TRUE	punctuation differences do not matter.
a elephant	["ALFNT","ALFNT"]	an elephant	FALSE	a and an are treated differently.