# Basic Splunking Techniques

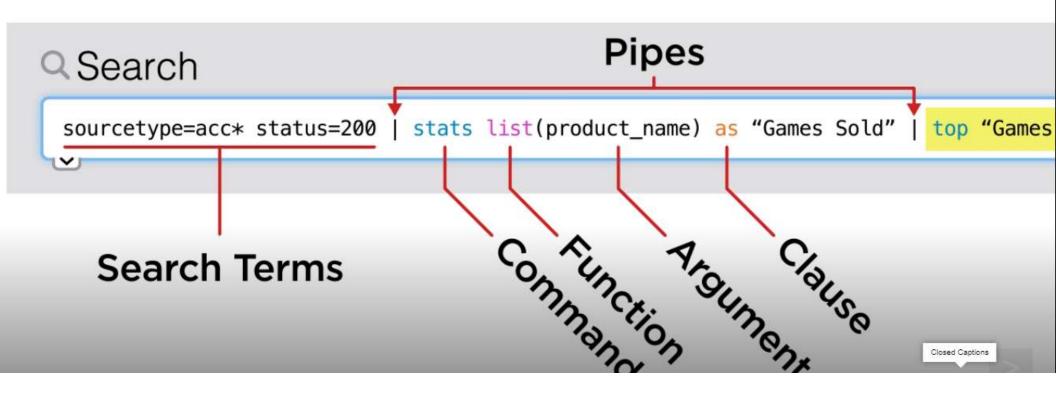


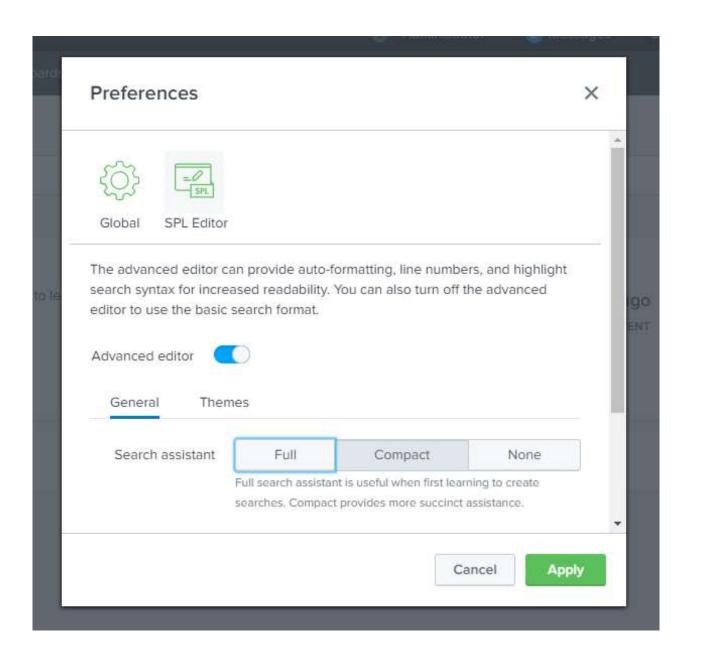
Overview



Search Terms
Commands
Functions
Arguments
Clauses

## Splunk Search Language Example





#### **Search Limitations**

Search Command

command/function

command/function



# SPL

Splunk Processing Language

source="WinEventLog:\*" host="Henson-Lap"

#### Search Commands

#### Chaining Commands

```
source="WinEventLog:*" host="Henson-Lap"| command 1 | command 2 ...
```

source="WinEventLog:\*" host="Henson-Lap" | search EventCode=100

#### Filtering Results

Allows for users to filter results in query. For example show results where event code = 100

source="WinEventLog:\*" host="Henson-Lap" | dedup EventCode

#### Remove Duplicates

Only shows unique events. For example show only EventCodes once

```
[query] | head 10

[query] | reverse

[query] | sort user

[query] | sort -user

[query] | tail 10
```

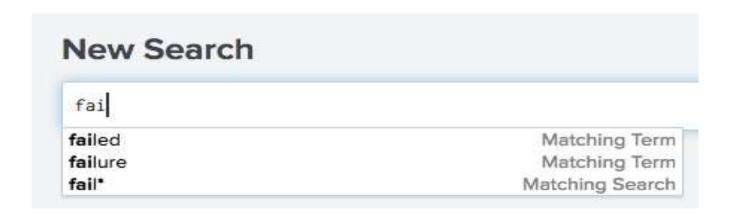
- ◆ Show first 10 results
- Reverse result order

◆Order by user ascending or user descending

◆Show last 10 results

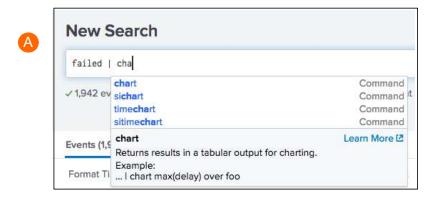
#### Search Assistant

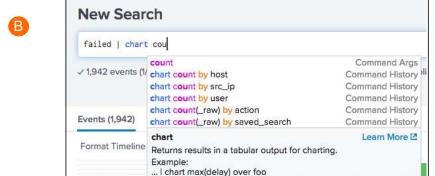
- Search Assistant provides selections for how to complete the search string
- Before the first pipe (|), it looks for matching terms
- You can continue typing OR select a term from the list
  - -If you select a term from the list, it is added to the search



## Search Assistant (cont.)

- After the first pipe, the Search Assistant shows a list of commands that can be entered into the search string
- You can continue typing OR scroll through and select a command to add
  - If you mouse over a command, more information about the command is shown As you continue to type, Search Assistant makes more suggestions

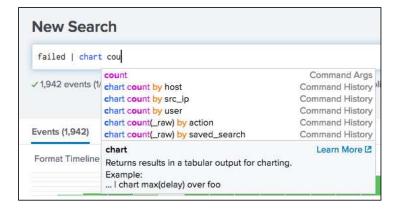


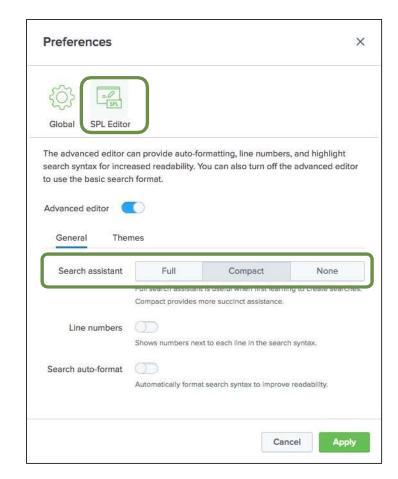


## Search Assistant (cont.)

- Search Assistant is enabled by default in the SPL Editor user preferences
- By default, Compact is selected
- To show more information, choose Full

#### **Compact Mode**

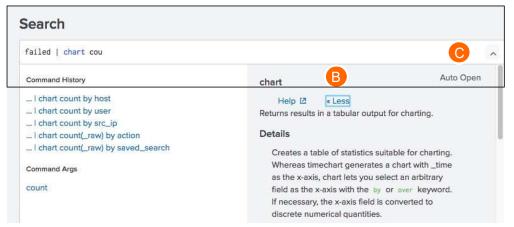




#### Search Assistant – Full Mode

- ♠ To show more information, click More »
- To show less information, clickLess
- To toggle Full mode off, deselect Auto Open





#### Search Assistant - Parentheses

- The Search Assistant provides help to match parentheses as you type
- When an end parenthesis is typed, the corresponding beginning parenthesis is automatically highlighted
  - -If a beginning parenthesis cannot be found, *nothing* is highlighted



#### Search Assistant – Parentheses

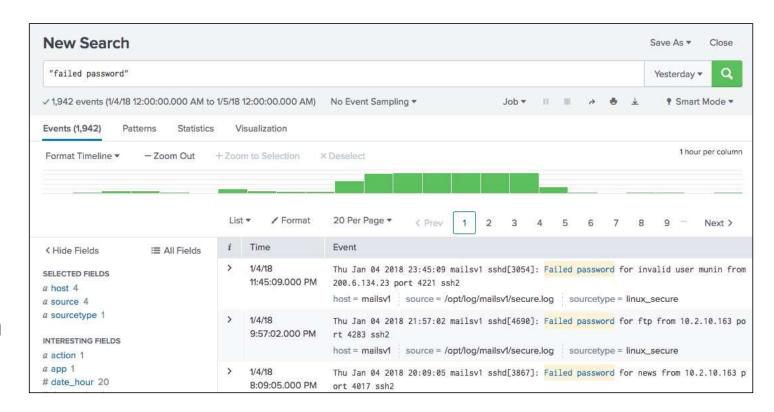
- 1. You can use parentheses to introduce an abbreviation. SPL is the abbreviation for Search Processing Language.
- 2. You can use parentheses when explaining that a task is optional in a procedure.
- 3. You can also use parentheses when writing about one or more fields in statistical commands and charting functions for SPL

```
(index="main") OR (index="_internal") error (index="main") AND (index="_internal") error
```

index="main" OR index="\_internal" error
index="main" AND index=" internal" error

## Viewing Search Results

- Matching results are returned immediately
- Displayed in reverse chronological order (newest first)
- Matching search terms are highlighted



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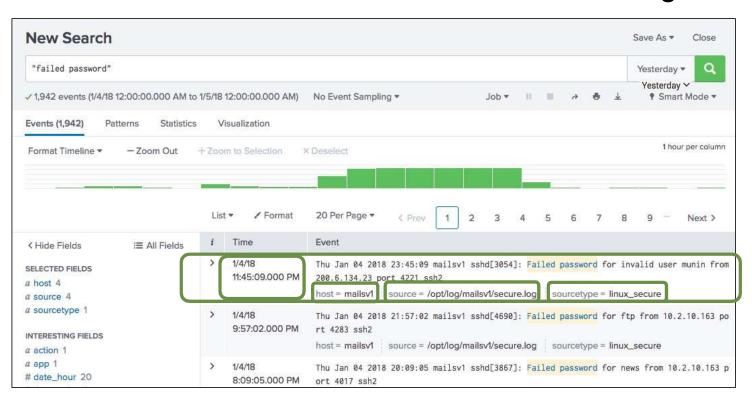
## Viewing Search Results (cont.)

Splunk parses data into individual events, extracts time, and assigns

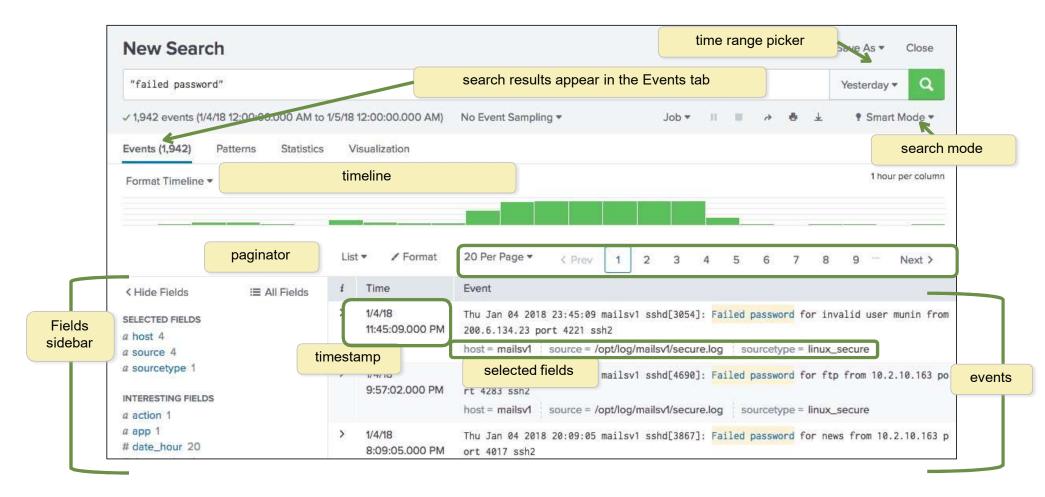
metadata

Each event has:

- timestamp
- host
- source
- sourcetype
- index

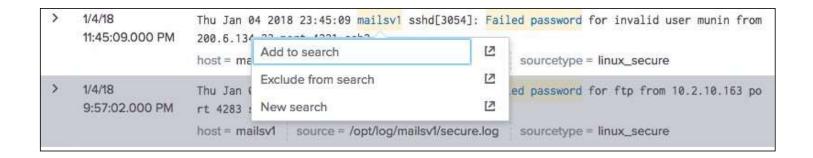


# Viewing Search Results (cont.)



#### Using Search Results to Modify a Search

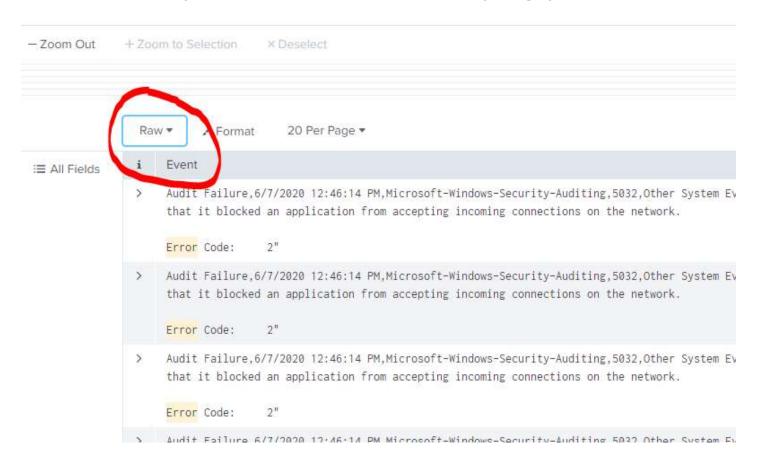
- When you mouse over search results, keywords are highlighted
- Click any item in your search results; a window appears allowing you to:
  - Add the item to the search
  - Exclude the item from the search
  - Open a new search including only that item



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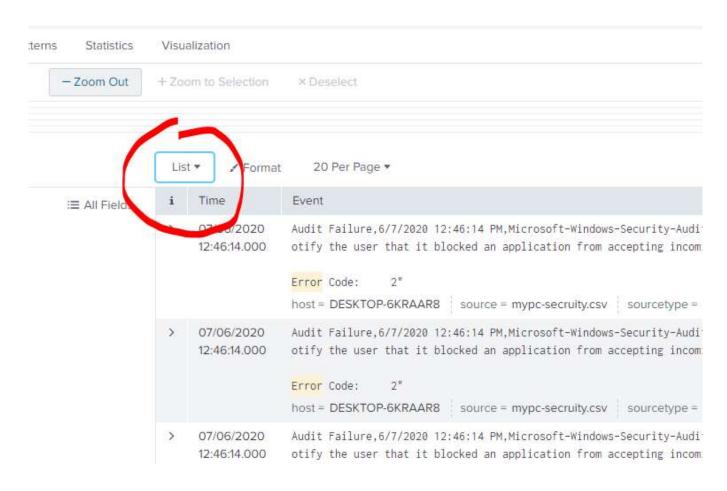
## Changing Search Results View Options

You have several layout options for displaying your search results



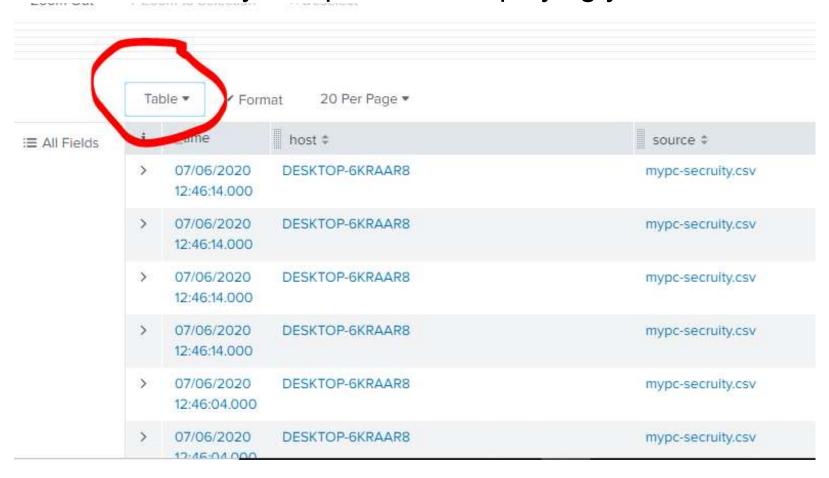
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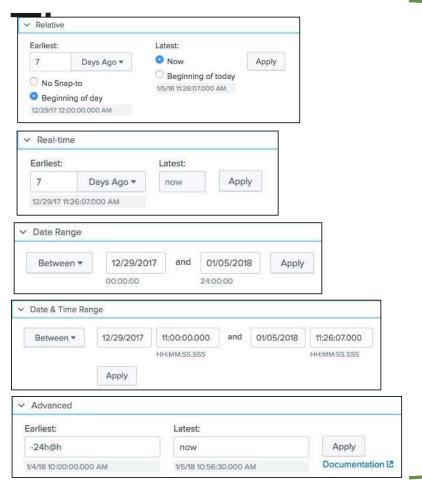


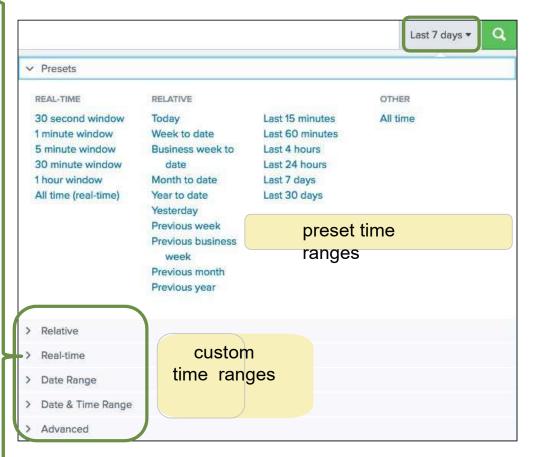
## Changing Search Results View Options

You have several layout options for displaying your search results



Selecting a Specific





## Time Range Abbreviations

- Time ranges are specified in the Advanced tab of the time range picker
- Time unit abbreviations include:

```
s = seconds m = minutes h = hours d = days w = week mon = months y = year
```

- @symbol "snaps" to the time unit you specify
  - Snapping rounds down to the nearest specified unit
  - Example: Current time when the search starts is 09:37:12
    - -30m@h

looks back to 09:00:00

-

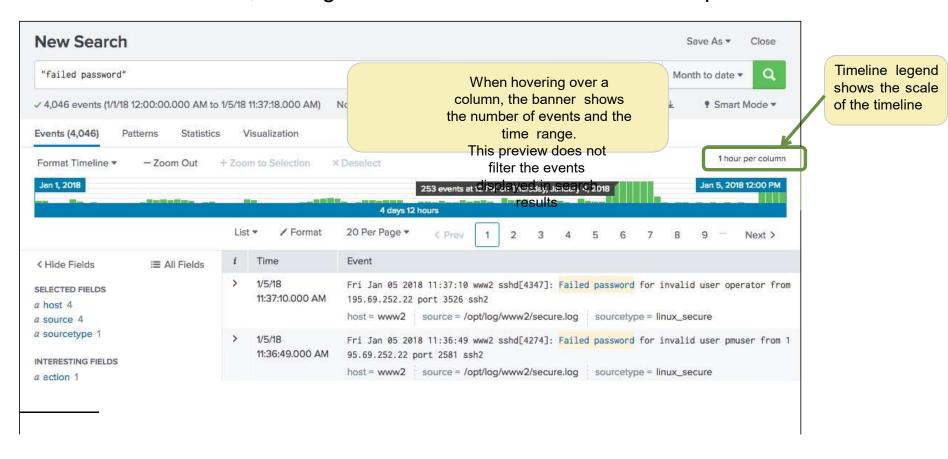
## Time Range: earliest andlatest

- You can also specify a time range in the search bar
- To specify a beginning and an ending for a time range, use earliest andlatest
- •Examples:

https://www.devopsschool.com/blog/how-to-specify-time-modifiers-in-splunk-search/

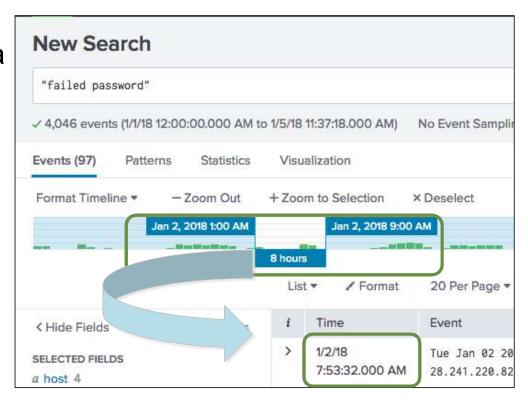
## Viewing the Timeline

- Timeline shows distribution of events specified in the time range
  - -Mouse over for details, or single-click to filter results for that time period



#### Viewing a Subset of the Results with Timeline

- To select a narrower time range, click and drag across a series of bars
  - This action filters the current search results
    - Does not re-execute the search
  - This filters the events and displays them in reverse chronological order (most recent first)



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## Using Other Timeline Controls

#### Format Timeline

Hides or shows the timeline in different views

#### Zoom Out

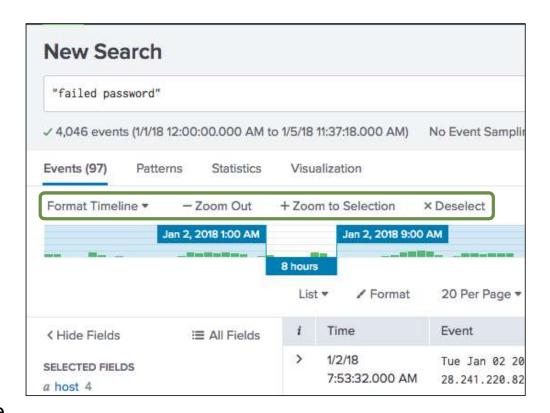
 Expands the time focus and re-executes the search

#### Zoom to Selection

 Narrows the time range and re-executes the search

#### Deselect

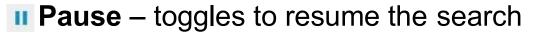
- If in a drilldown, returns to the original results set
- Otherwise, grayed out / unavailable



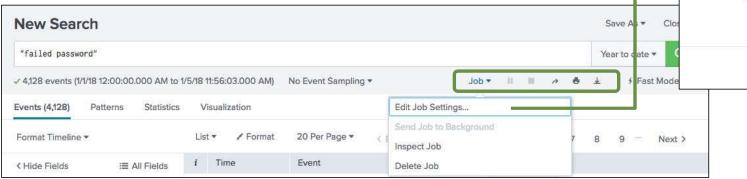
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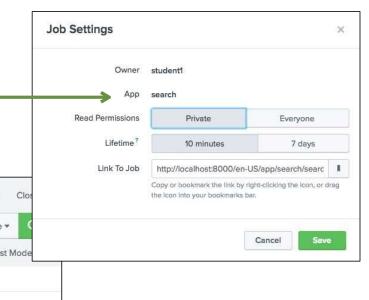
## Controlling and Saving Search Jobs

- Every search is also a job
- Use the Job bar to control search execution



- Stop finalizes the search in progress
- Jobs are available for 10 minutes (default)
- -Get a link to results from the **Job** menu





## Job Setting Permissions

#### Private [default]

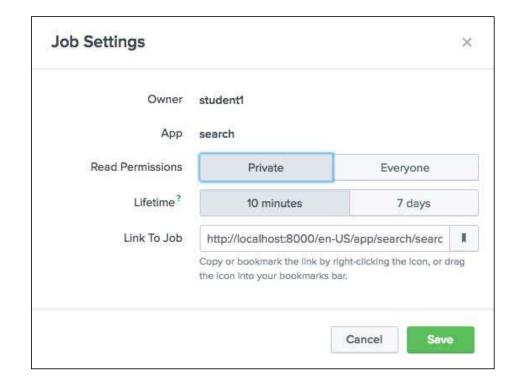
- Only the creator can access

#### Everyone

All app users can access search results

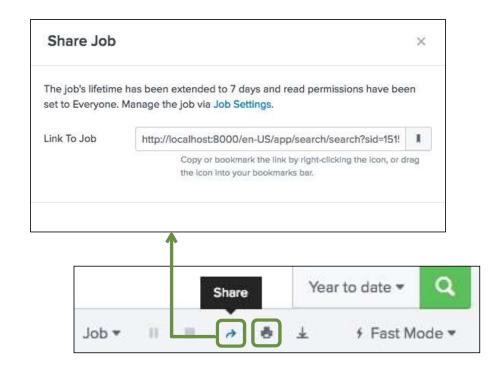
#### Lifetime

- Default is 10 minutes
- Can be extended to 7 days
- To keep your search results longer, schedule a report



## Sharing Search Jobs

- Use the Share button next to the Job bar to quickly:
  - Give everyone read permissions
  - Extend results retention to 7 days
  - Get a sharable link to the results
- Sharing search allows multiple users working on same issue to see same data
  - More efficient than each running search separately
  - Less load on server and disk space used

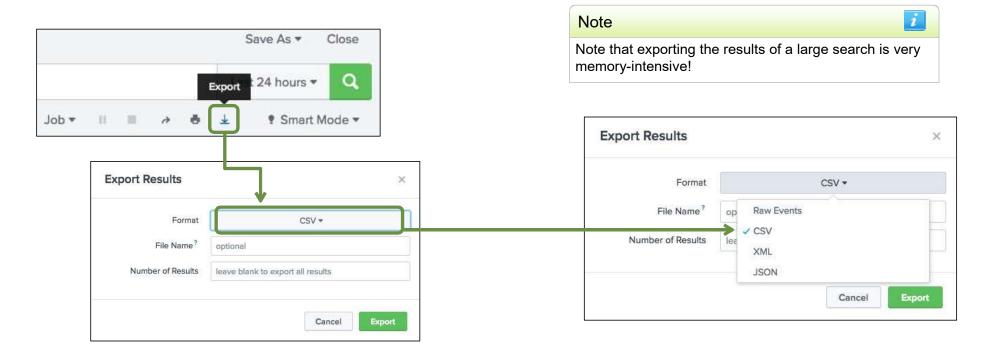


 Can also click printer icon to print results or save as PDF

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## **Exporting Search Results**

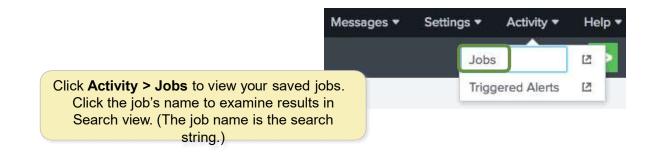
For an external copy of the results, **export** search results to Raw Events (text file), CSV, XML, or JSON format

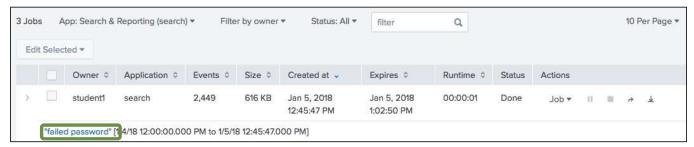


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#### Viewing Your Saved Jobs

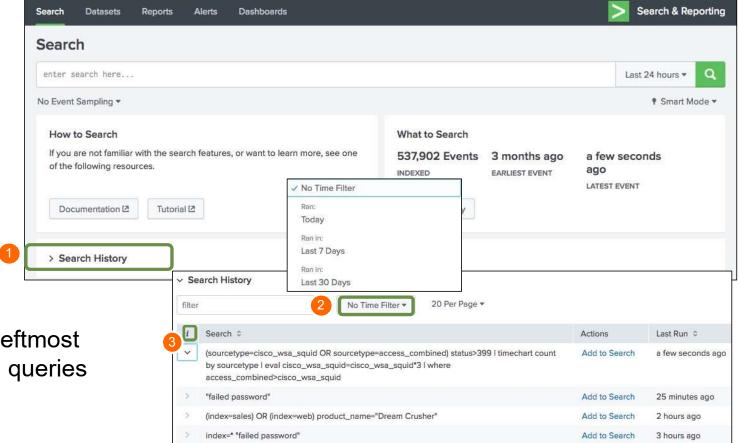
- Access saved search jobs from the **Activity** menu
- The Search Jobs view displays jobs that:
  - You have run in the last10 minutes
  - You have extended for 7 days
- Click on a job link to view the results in the designated app view





## Viewing Your Search History

- Search History
   displays your
   most recent ad hoc searches 5
   per page
- 2. You can set a time filter to further narrow your results



Click the > icon in the leftmost column to expand long queries
 tbisplay the full text

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### Demo

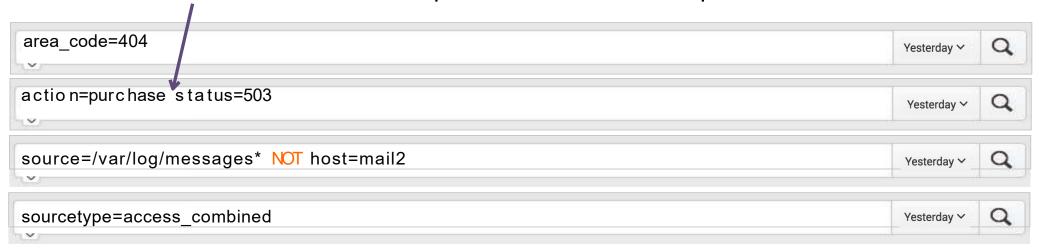


Adding more data

Dive into Splunk search

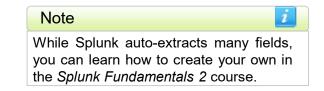
### What Are Fields?

- Fields are searchable key/value pairs in your event data
  - Examples: host=www1 status=503
- Fields can be searched with their names, like separating an http status code of 404 from Atlanta's area code (area\_code=404)
- Between search terms, ANDis implied unless otherwise specified



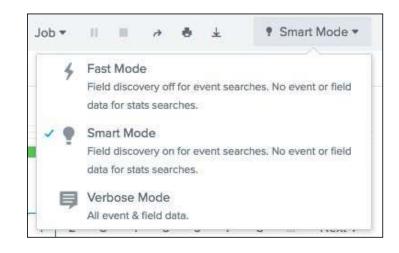
## Field Discovery

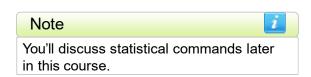
- Splunk automatically discovers many fields based on sourcetype and key/value pairs found in the data
- Prior to search time, some fields are already stored with the event in the index:
  - Meta fields, such as host, source, sourcetype, and index
  - Internal fields such as \_time and \_raw
- At search time, field discovery discovers fields directly related to the search's results
- Some fields in the overall data may not appear within the results of a particular search



# Search Modes: Fast, Smart, Verbose

- Fast: emphasizes speed over completeness
- Smart: balances speed and completeness (default)
- Verbose:
  - Emphasizes completeness over speed
  - Allows access to underlying events when using reporting or statistical commands (in addition to totals and stats)





## Identify Data-Specific Fields

- Data-specific fields come from the specific characteristics of your data
  - Sometimes, this is indicated by obvious key = value pairs (act i on purchase)
  - Sometimes, this comes from data within the event, defined by the sourcetype (status = 200)



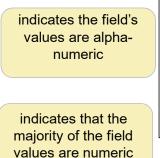


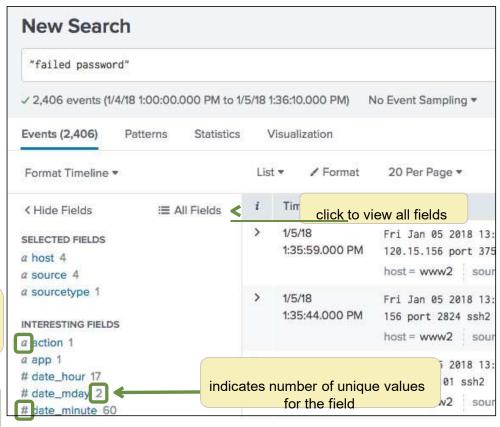
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### Fields Sidebar

#### For the current search:

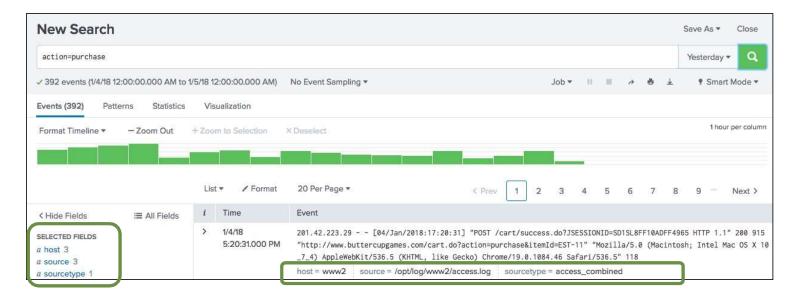
- Selected Fields a set of configurable fields displayed for each event
- Interesting Fields occur in at least 20% of resulting events
- All Fields link to view all fields (including non-interesting fields)





### Describe Selected Fields

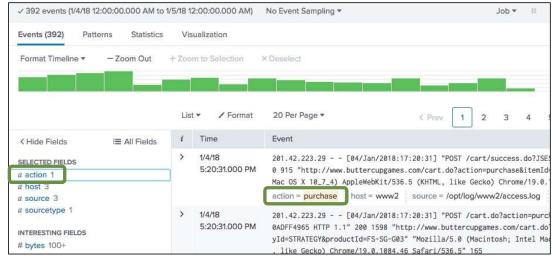
- Selected fields and their values are listed under every event that includes those fields
- By default, the selected fields are:
  - host
  - source
  - sourcetype
- You can choose any field and make it a selected field



### Make an Interesting Field a Selected Field

- You can modify selected fields
  - Click a field in the Fields sidebar
  - Click Yes in the upper right of the field dialog
- Note that a selected field appears:
  - In the Selected Fields section of the Fields sidebar
  - Below each event where a value exists for that field





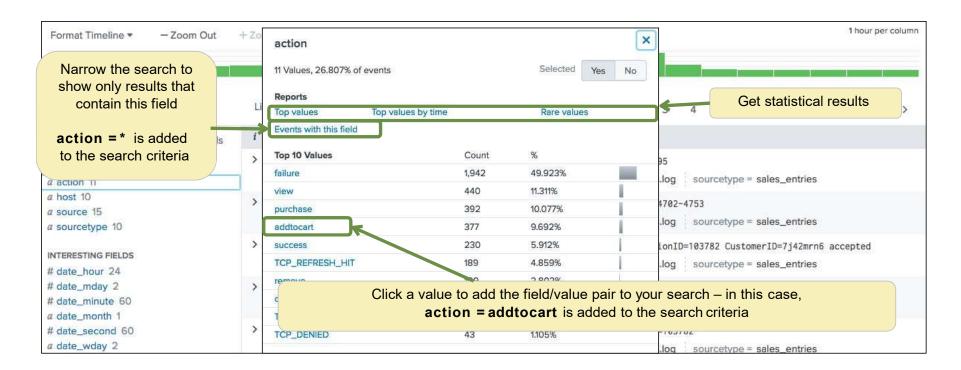
## Make Any Field Selected

You can identify other fields as selected fields from All Fields (which shows all of the discovered fields)



### The Field Window

Select a field from the Fields sidebar, then:



# Using Fields in Searches

Efficient way to pinpoint searches and refine results



- Field names ARE case sensitive; field values are NOT
  - -Example:



# Using Fields in Searches (cont.)

For IP fields, Splunk is subnet/CIDR aware

```
clientip="202.201.1.0/24"
```

- Use wildcards to match a range of field values
  - -Example: user=\* (to display all events that contain a value for user)

```
user=*csourcetype=access* (referer_domain=*.cn CR referer_domain=*.hk)
```

Use relational operators

With numeric fields



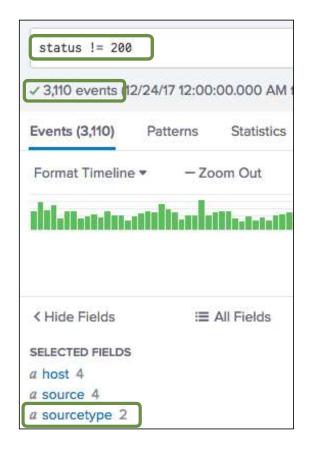
With alphanumeric fields



### ! = vs. NOT

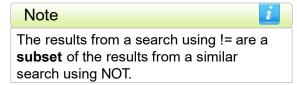
- Both!= field expression and NOToperator exclude events from your search, but produce different results
- Example: status != 200
  - Returns events where status field exists and value in field doesn't equal 200
- Example: NOT status = 200
  - Returns events where status field exists and value in field doesn't equal 200 -- and all events where status field doesn't exist

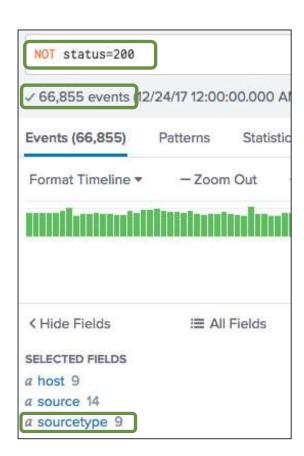
# ! = vs. NOT(cont.)



#### In this example:

- status != 200 returns 3,110 events from 2 sourcetypes
- NOT status=200 returns
  66,855 events from 9 sourcetypes

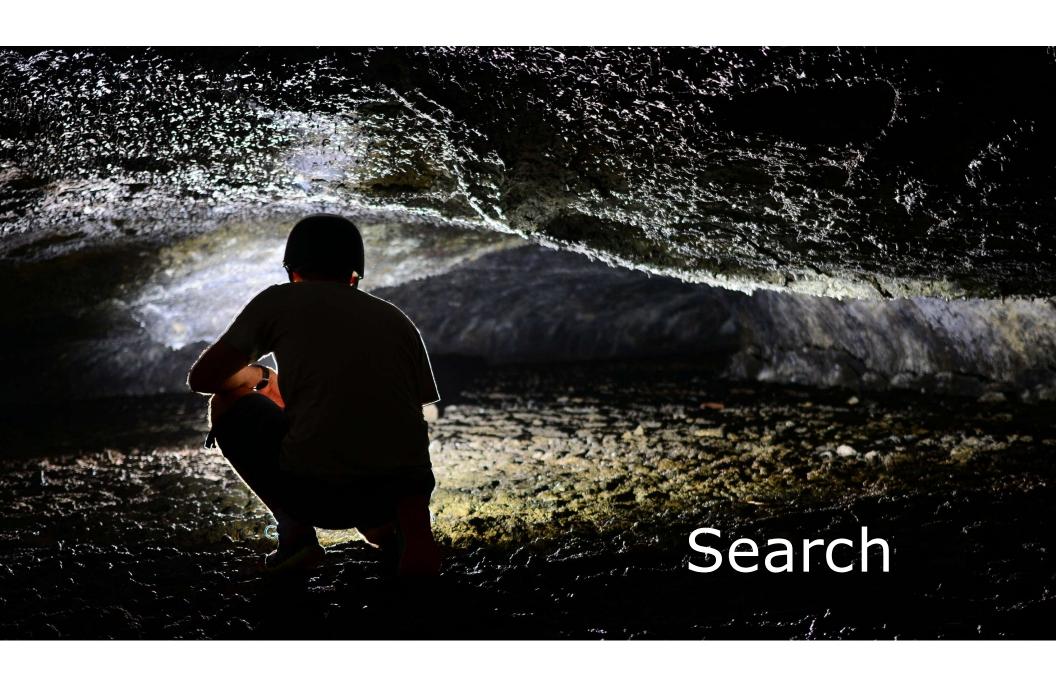




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### ! = vs. NOT(cont.)

- Does != and NOTever yield the same results?
  - Yes, if you know the field you're evaluating always exists in the data you're searching
  - For example:
    - index=web sourcetype=access\_combined status!=200 index=web sourcetype=access\_combined NOT status=200 yields same results because status field always exists in access combined sourcetype







#### Analyze data

- Date Time
- Event IDs
- Etc



#### Ongoing Analysis

- Trends
- Daily Awareness

#### Management

- Status
- Patterns



#### Warnings

- Real-time
- Scheduled

#### **Problems**

- Quicker resolution
- Actionable

### Demo



Windows System Logs
Windows Security Logs

### Demo



Developing saved reports

### Summary



Added more data from localmachine Understanding of search