

Introduction into KQL

Introduction into KQL
Provide simple demonstrations
Retrieve, Inject Azure Log Analytics data with PowerShell
Real World examples
Inspire to learn more

IT Pro Toolbox

Back thenBatch Scripting / SQL

TodayPowerShell, KQL



baseVISION









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https://www.verboon.info/

KQL History

2016 - Introducing Application Insights Analytics by Brian Harry https://devblogs.microsoft.com/bharry/introducing-application-analytics/

2017 - Azure Log Analytics workspace upgrades are in progress

https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/azure-log-analytics-workspace-upgrades-are-in-progress/

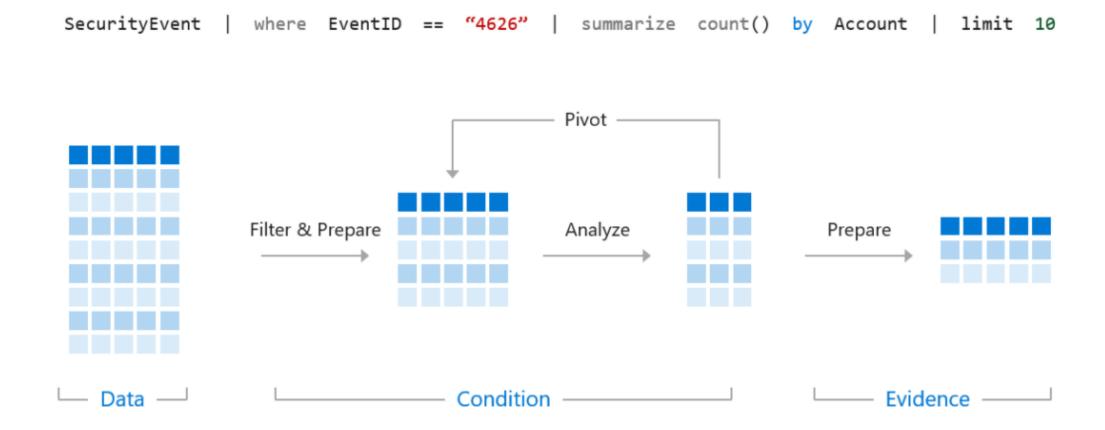
This upgrade introduces an improved search experience, powered by a highly scalable platform. The new experience includes an interactive and expressive query language, machine learning constructs and a portal for advanced analytics, offering a multiline query editor, full schema view and rich visualizations to help you get deeper insights from your data. Learn more about the new query language.

To take advantage of the following language benefits and more, you'll need to upgrade your Log Analytics workspace:

- Simple yet powerful. Easier to understand and similar to SQL with constructs like a natural language.
- **Full piping language.** Extensive piping capabilities where any output can be piped to another command to create complex queries that were possible previously.
- **Search-time field extractions.** Calculated fields at runtime lets you use complex calculations for extended fields and then use them for additional commands including joins and aggregations.
- Advanced joins. Ability to join tables on multiple fields, using inner and outer joins, and join on extended fields.
- Date/time functions. Advanced date/time functions that gives you greater flexibility.
- Smart Analytics. Advanced algorithms to evaluate patterns in datasets and compare different sets of data.
- See more information in "Why the new language?".

2017 - The improved Azure Log Analytics: A powerful query language with machine learning, and more https://channel9.msdn.com/Events/Ignite/Microsoft-Ignite-Orlando-2017/BRK3269

A Kusto query is a **read-only** request to process data and return results. The request is stated in plain text, using a data-flow model designed to make the syntax easy to read, author, and automate. The query uses schema entities that are organized in a hierarchy similar to SQL's: databases, tables, and columns.



Microsoft Solutions with KQL support

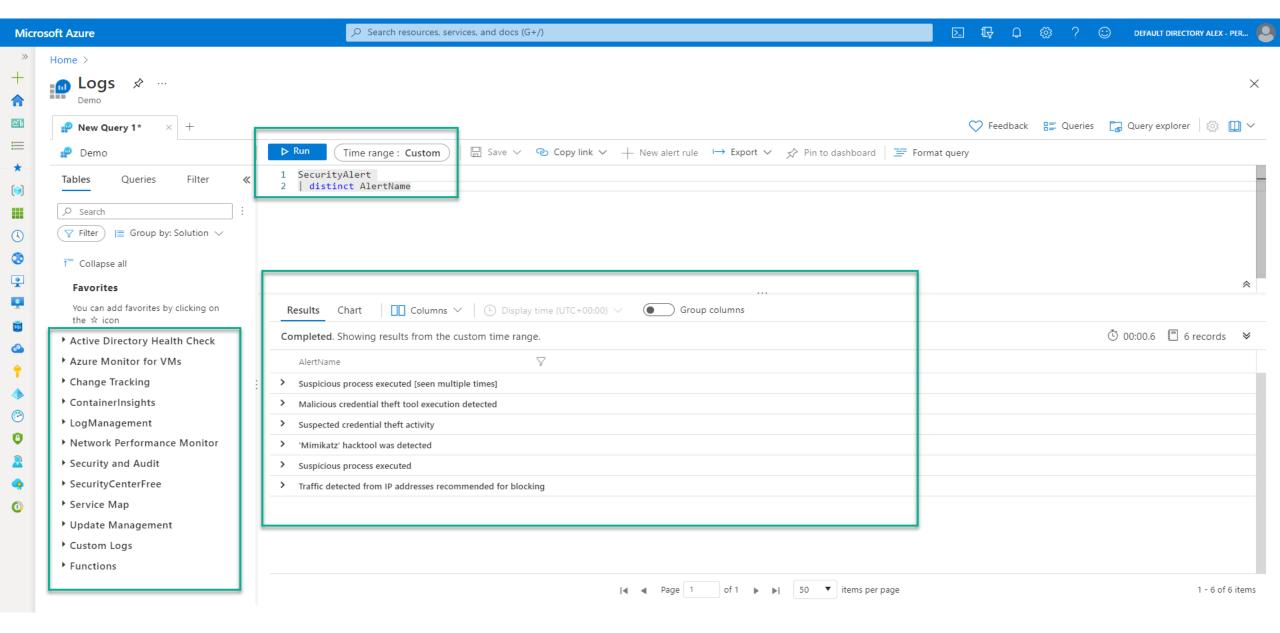
- Azure Log Analytics
- Azure Sentinel
- Microsoft 365 Defender
- CMPIvot Microsoft Endpoint Configuration Manager
- Jupyter Notebooks
- Azure Data Explorer

KQL – SQL Cheat sheet

Category	SQL Query	Kusto Query
Select data from table	SELECT * FROM dependencies	dependencies
	SELECT name, resultCode FROM dependencies	dependencies project name, resultCode
	SELECT TOP 100 * FROM dependencies	dependencies take 100
Comparison operators (date)	SELECT * FROM dependencies WHERE timestamp > getdate()-1	dependencies where timestamp > ago(1d)
Comparison operators (string)	SELECT * FROM dependencies WHERE type = "Azure blob"	dependencies where type == "Azure blob"
	substring SELECT * FROM dependencies WHERE type like "%blob%"	// substring dependencies where type contains "blob"
	wildcard SELECT * FROM dependencies WHERE type like "Azure%"	// wildcard dependencies where type startswith "Azure" // or dependencies where type matches regex "^Azure.*"

Source: SQL to Kusto cheat sheet https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/data-explorer/kusto/query/sqlcheatsheet

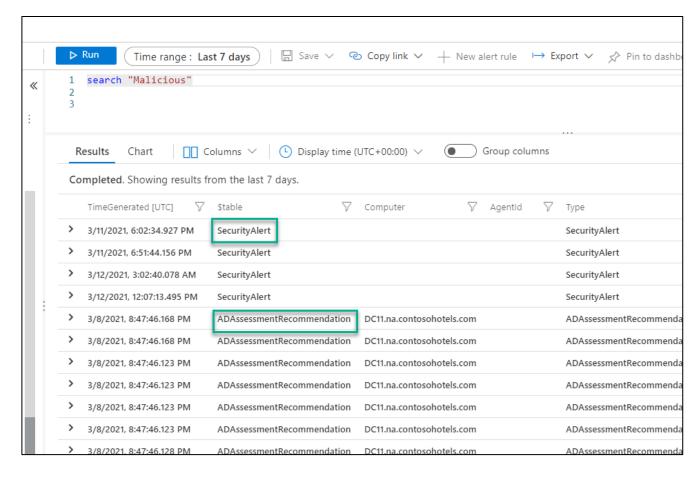
Log Analytics Demo environment: https://aka.ms/lademo



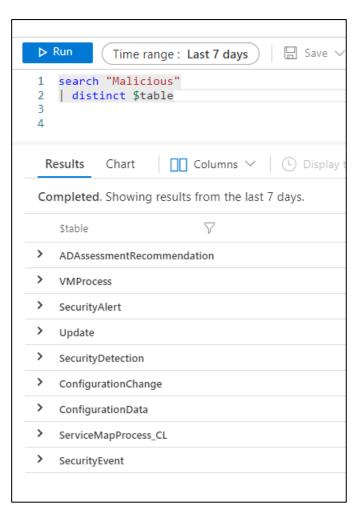


search

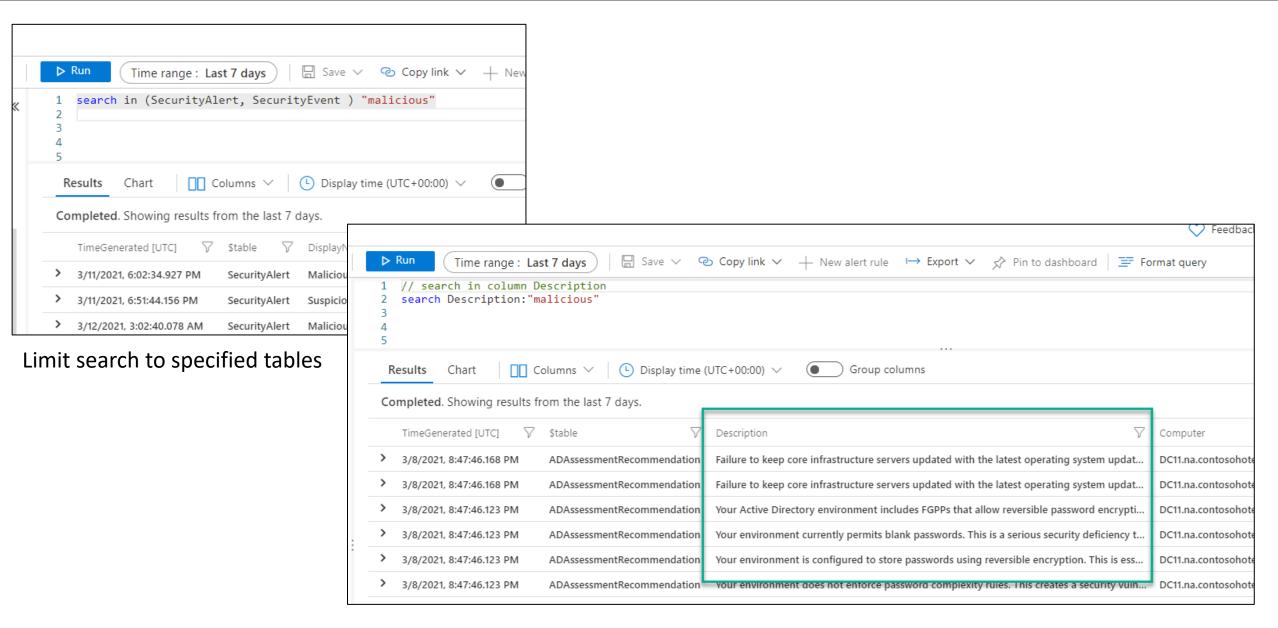
Search - Searches all columns in the table for the value



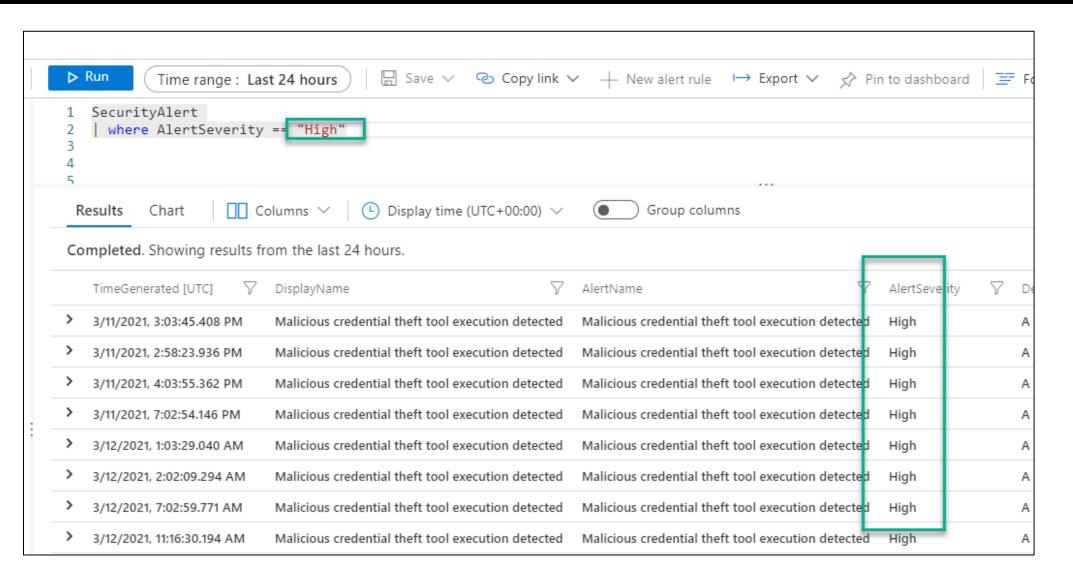
Search across all tables

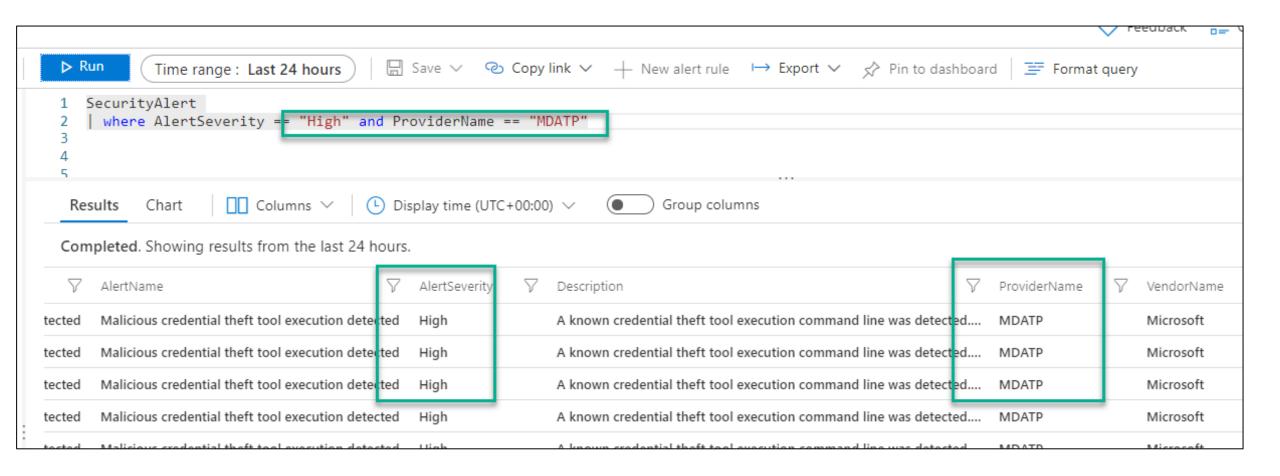


List of all tables where the search has matches

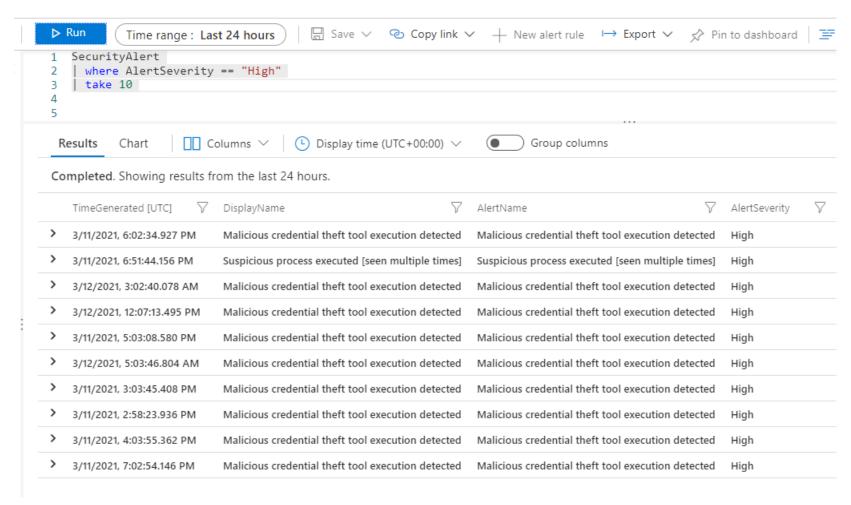


Limit search to specified column



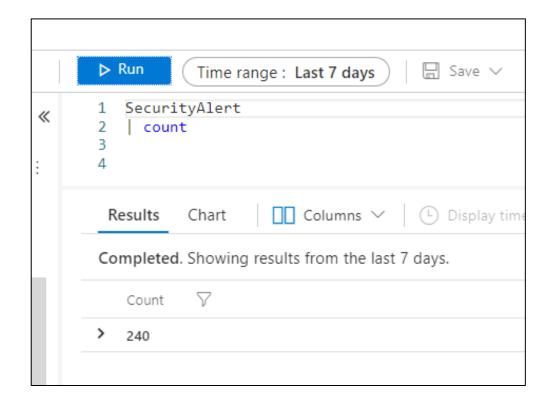


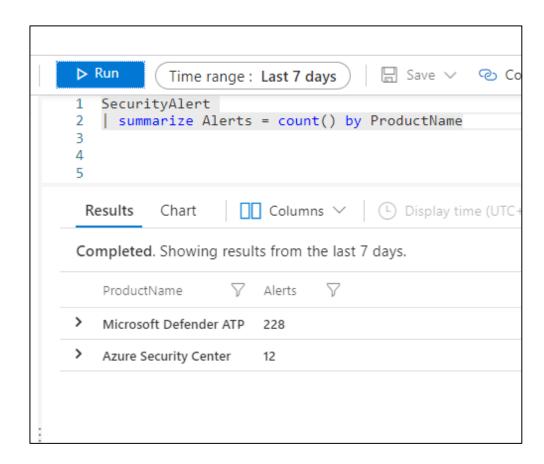
take is a simple, quick, and efficient way to view a small sample of records when browsing data interactively,



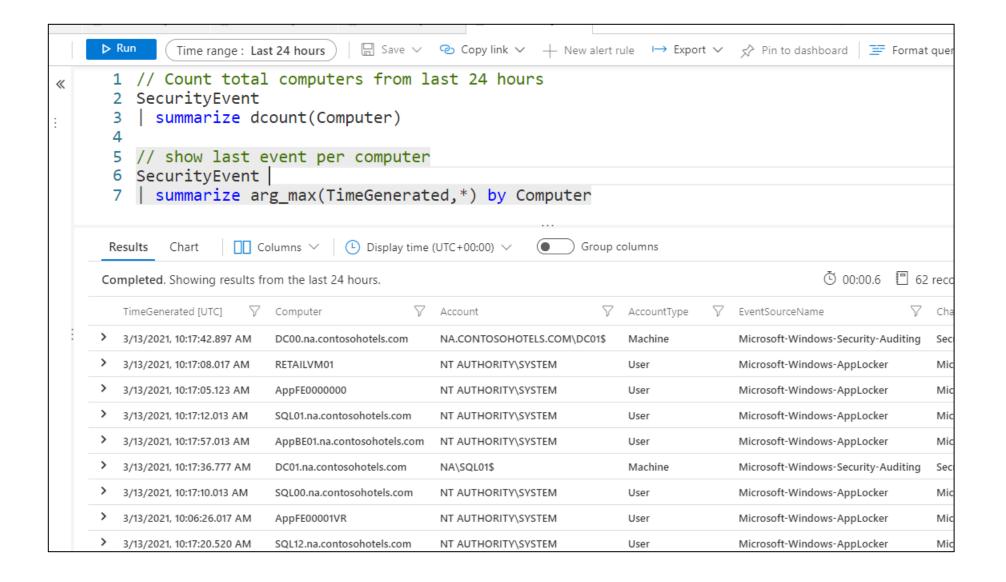
Use take if you just need some random data

Count & Summarize

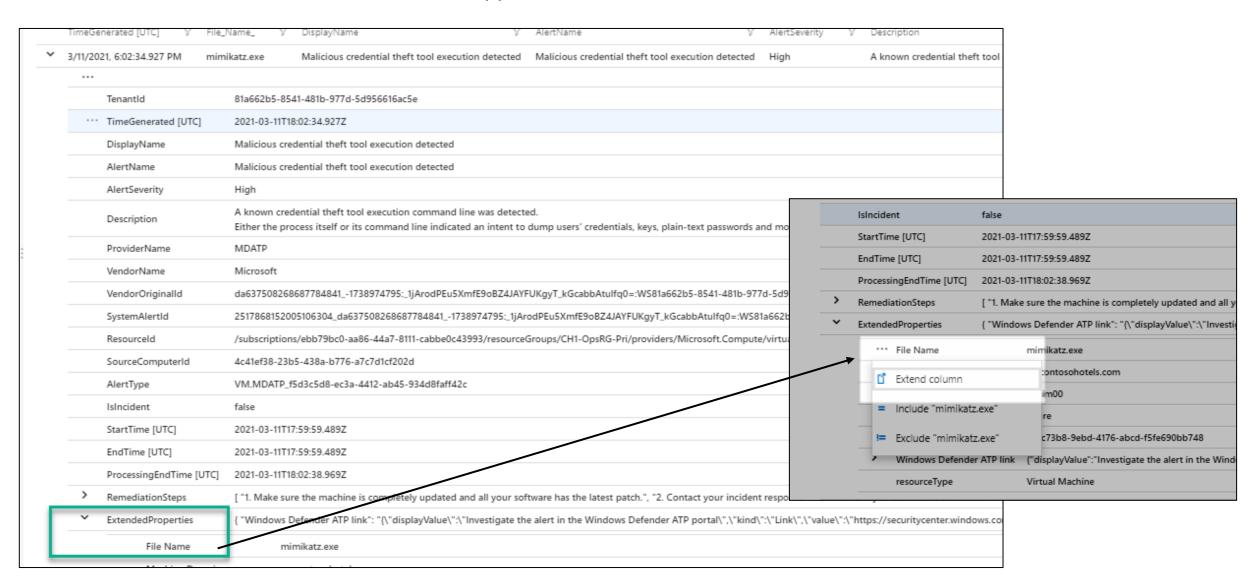


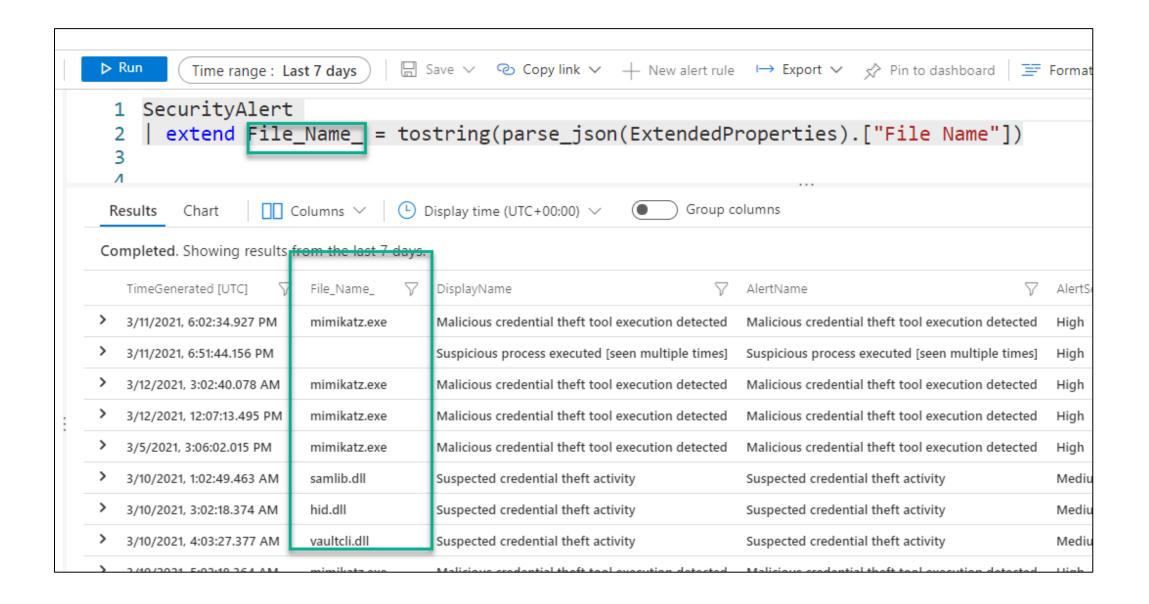


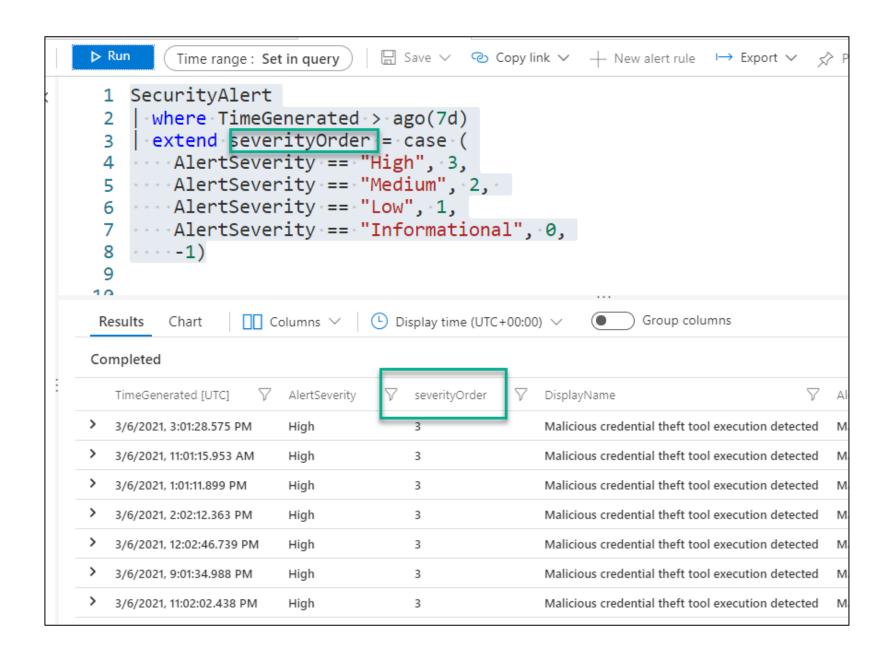
Count & Summarize



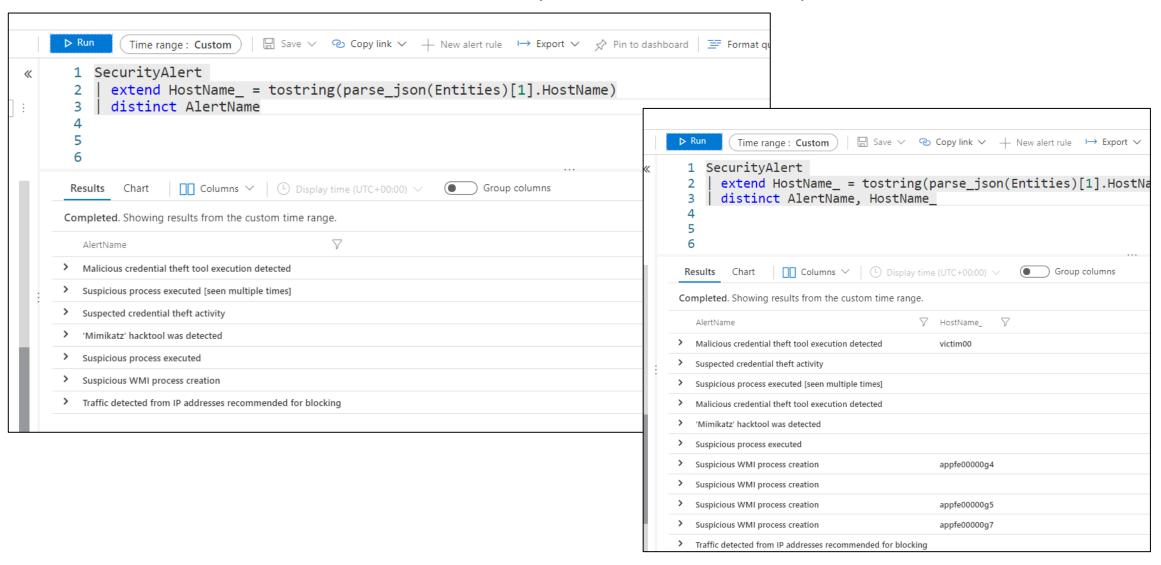
Use **extend** to create calculated columns and append them to the result set.





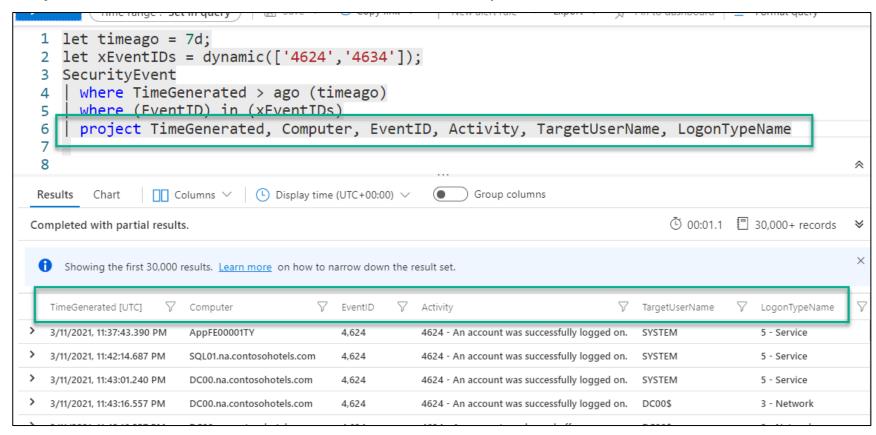


Produces a table with the distinct combination of the provided columns of the input table.



project

Project – select the columns to include in the output

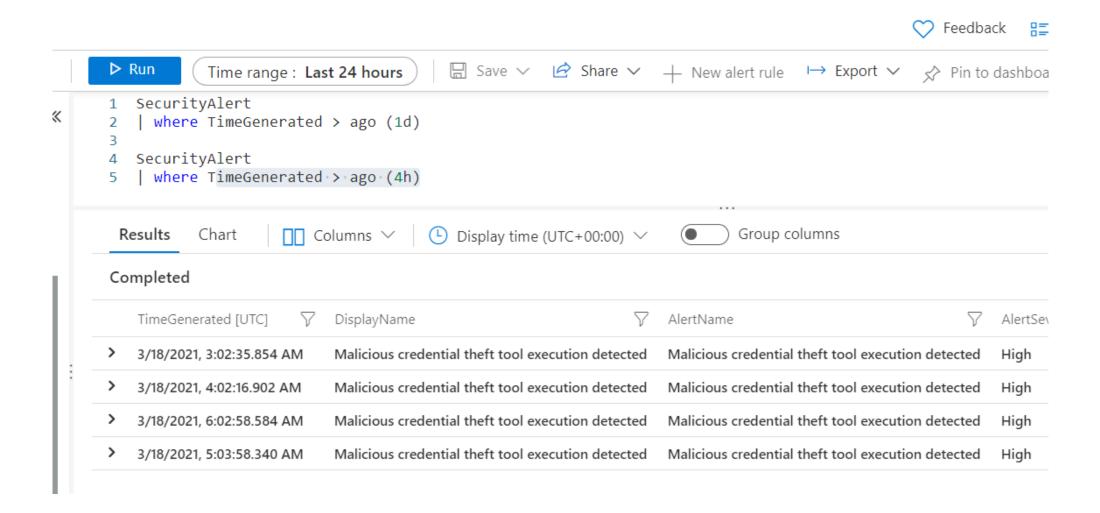


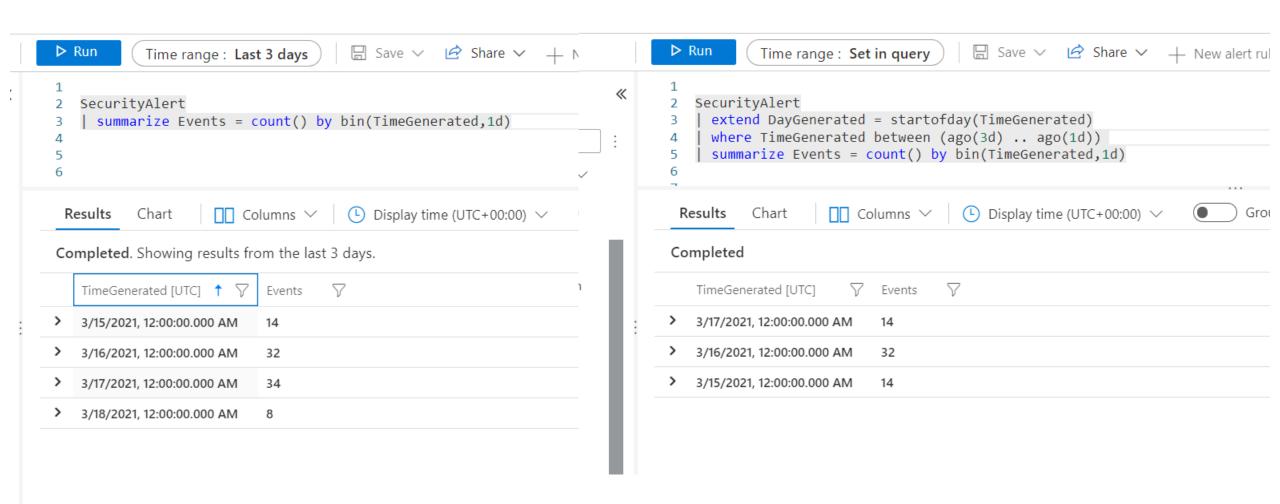
project-away – exclude columns from the output project-rename – rename a column project-keep – columns to keep Project-reorder – reorder columns in the output

String Operators

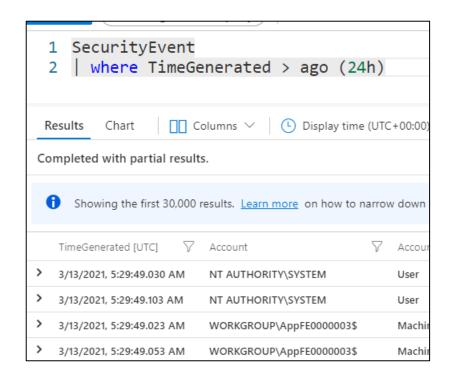
Operator	Description	Case-Sensitive	Example (yields true)
==	Equals	Yes	"aBc" == "aBc"
!=	Not equals	Yes	"abc" != "ABC"
=~	Equals	No	"abc" =~ "ABC"
!~	Not equals	No	"aBc" !~ "xyz"
has	Right-hand-side (RHS) is a whole term in left-hand-side (LHS)	No	"North America" has "america"
!has	RHS isn't a full term in LHS	No	"North America" !has "amer"
has_cs	RHS is a whole term in LHS	Yes	"North America" has_cs "America"
!has_cs	RHS isn't a full term in LHS	Yes	"North America" !has_cs "amer"
hasprefix	RHS is a term prefix in LHS	No	"North America" hasprefix "ame"
!hasprefix	RHS isn't a term prefix in LHS	No	"North America" !hasprefix "mer"
hasprefix_cs	RHS is a term prefix in LHS	Yes	"North America" hasprefix_cs "Ame"
!hasprefix_cs	RHS isn't a term prefix in LHS	Yes	"North America" !hasprefix_cs "CA"
hassuffix	RHS is a term suffix in LHS	No	"North America" hassuffix "ica"
!hassuffix	RHS isn't a term suffix in LHS	No	"North America" !hassuffix "americ"
hassuffix_cs	RHS is a term suffix in LHS	Yes	"North America" hassuffix_cs "ica"
!hassuffix_cs	RHS isn't a term suffix in LHS	Yes	"North America" !hassuffix_cs "icA"
contains	RHS occurs as a subsequence of LHS	No	"FabriKam" contains "BRik"
!contains	RHS doesn't occur in LHS	No	"Fabrikam" !contains "xyz"
contains_cs	RHS occurs as a subsequence of LHS	Yes	"FabriKam" contains_cs "Kam"
!contains_cs	RHS doesn't occur in LHS	Yes	"Fabrikam" !contains_cs "Kam"
startswith	RHS is an initial subsequence of LHS	No	"Fabrikam" startswith "fab"
!startswith	RHS isn't an initial subsequence of LHS	No	"Fabrikam" !startswith "kam"
startswith_cs	RHS is an initial subsequence of LHS	Yes	"Fabrikam" startswith_cs "Fab"
!startswith_cs	RHS isn't an initial subsequence of LHS	Yes	"Fabrikam" !startswith_cs "fab"
endswith	RHS is a closing subsequence of LHS	No	"Fabrikam" endswith "Kam"
!endswith	RHS isn't a closing subsequence of LHS	No	"Fabrikam" !endswith "brik"
endswith_cs	RHS is a closing subsequence of LHS	Yes	"Fabrikam" endswith_cs "kam"
!endswith_cs	RHS isn't a closing subsequence of LHS	Yes	"Fabrikam" !endswith_cs "brik"
matches regex	LHS contains a match for RHS	Yes	"Fabrikam" matches regex "b.*k"
in	Equals to one of the elements	Yes	"abc" in ("123", "345", "abc")
!in	Not equals to any of the elements	Yes	"bca" !in ("123", "345", "abc")
in~	Equals to one of the elements	No	"abc" in~ ("123", "345", "ABC")
!in~	Not equals to any of the elements	No	"bca" !in~ ("123", "345", "ABC")
has_any	Same as has but works on any of the elements	No	"North America" has_any("south", "north")

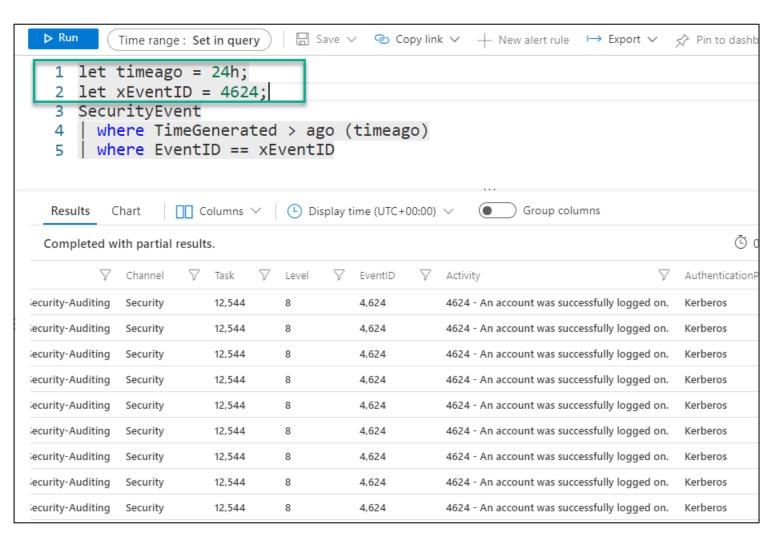
Subtracts the given timespan from the current UTC clock time.

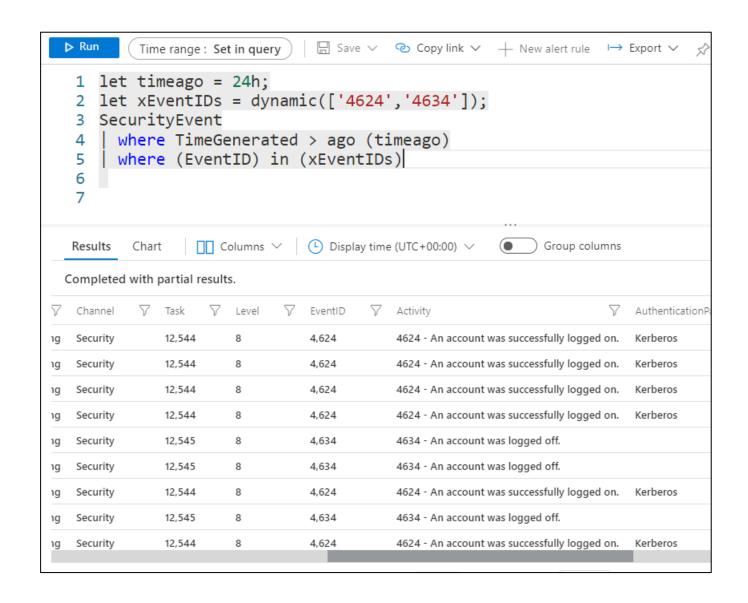


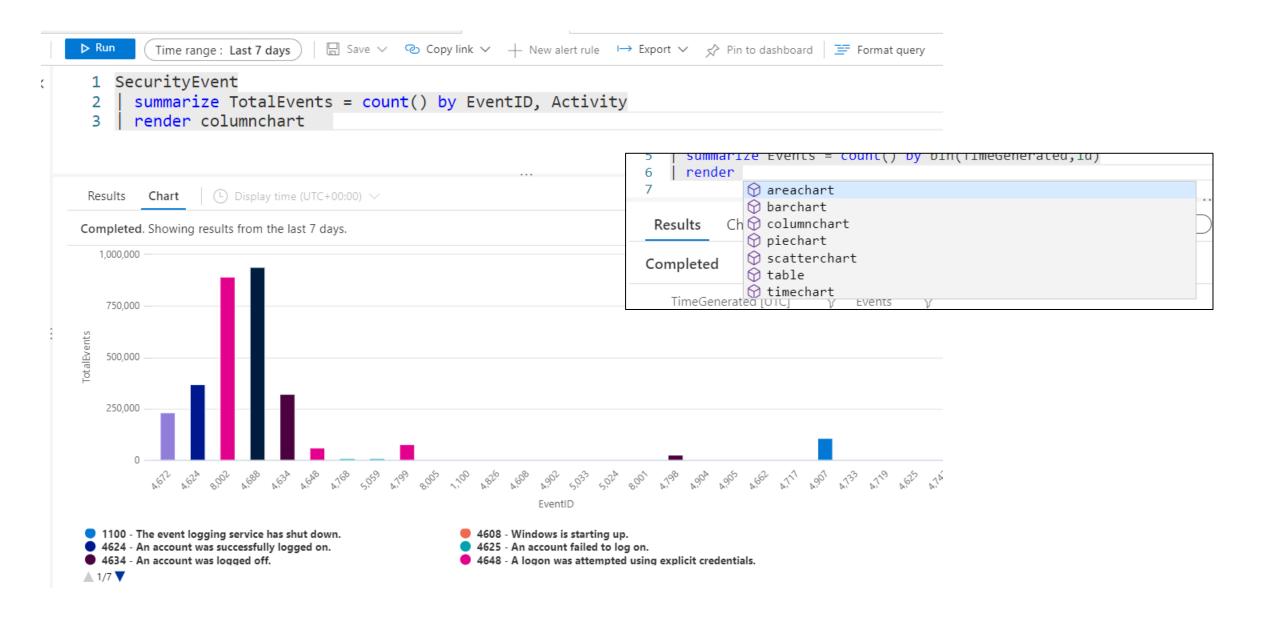


Use **let** to define variables



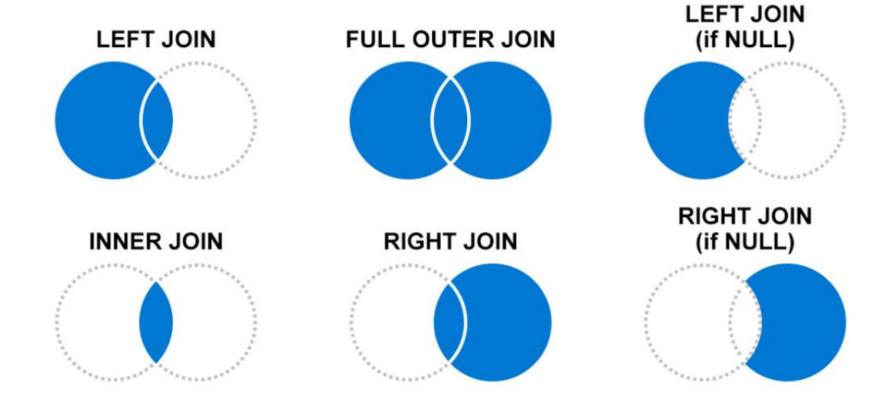








LeftTable | join [JoinParameters] (RightTable) on Attributes



Join Flavor	Output Records
kind=leftanti, kind=leftantisemi	Returns all the records from the left side that don't have matches from the right
kind=rightanti, kind=rightantisemi	Returns all the records from the right side that don't have matches from the left.
kind unspecified, kind=innerunique	Only one row from the left side is matched for each value of the on key. The output contains a row for each match of this row with rows from the right
kind=leftsemi	Returns all the records from the left side that have matches from the right.
kind=rightsemi	Returns all the records from the right side that have matches from the left.
kind=inner	Contains a row in the output for every combination of matching rows from left and right.
kind=leftouter (or kind=rightouter or kind=fullouter)	Contains a row for every row on the left and right, even if it has no match. The unmatched output cells contain nulls.

```
SecurityEvent
    where EventID == "4624"
    where Account contains "tim"
    summarize LogOnCount=count() by EventID, Account
    project LogOnCount, Account
    join kind = inner (
       SecurityEvent
          where EventID == "4634"
          summarize LogOffCount=count() by EventID, Account
          project LogOffCount, Account
    on Account
           ☐ Columns ✓ ☐ Display time (UTC+00:00) ✓ ☐
                                                          Group columns
esults
     Chart
npleted. Showing results from the last 24 hours.
                                                        \nabla

√ Account

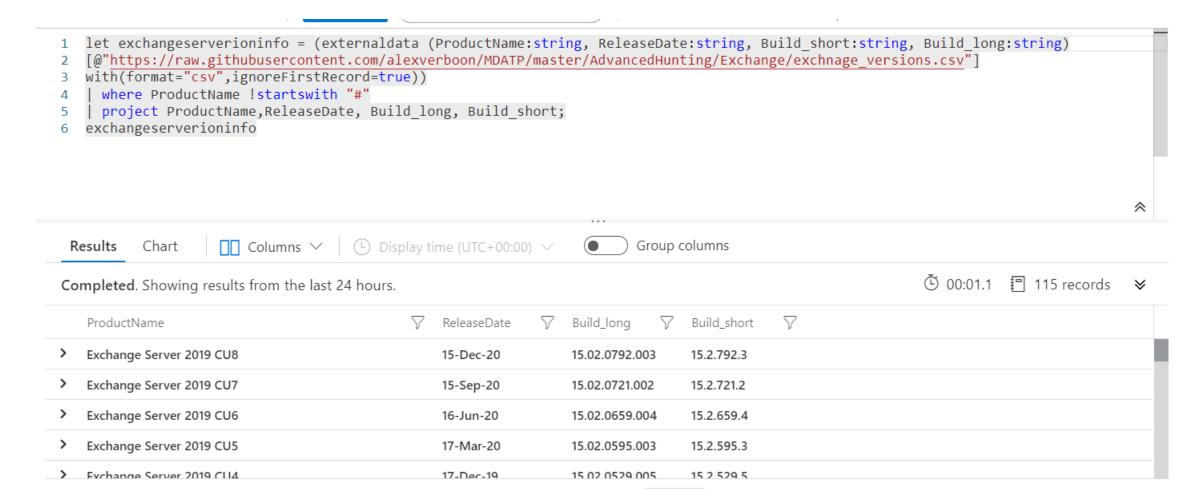
                             LogOffCount
LogOnCount

√ Account 1

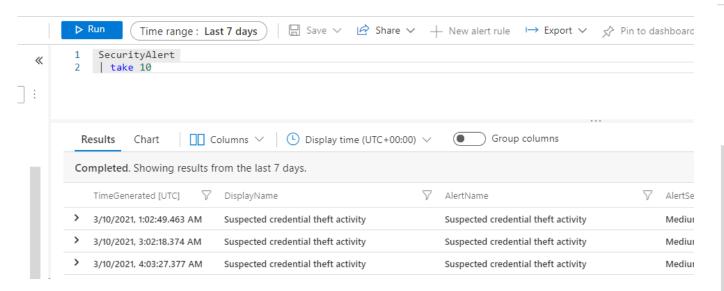
96
              RETAILVM01\timadmin
                                            RETAILVM01\timadmin
196
              SQL00\timadmin
                              196
                                            SQL00\timadmin
```

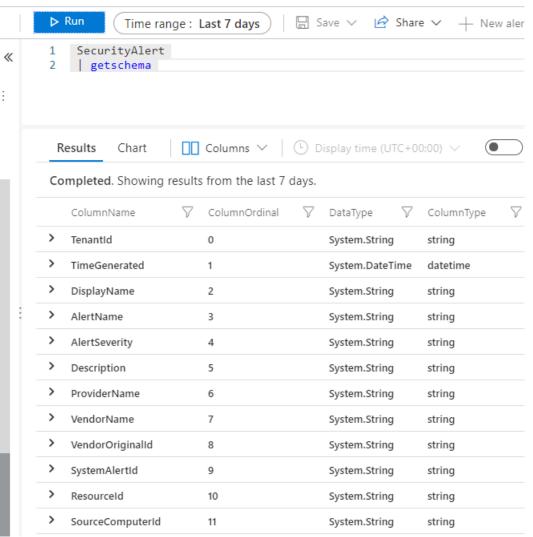
Externaldata

Use external data to include External Data in your queries



Hello Table



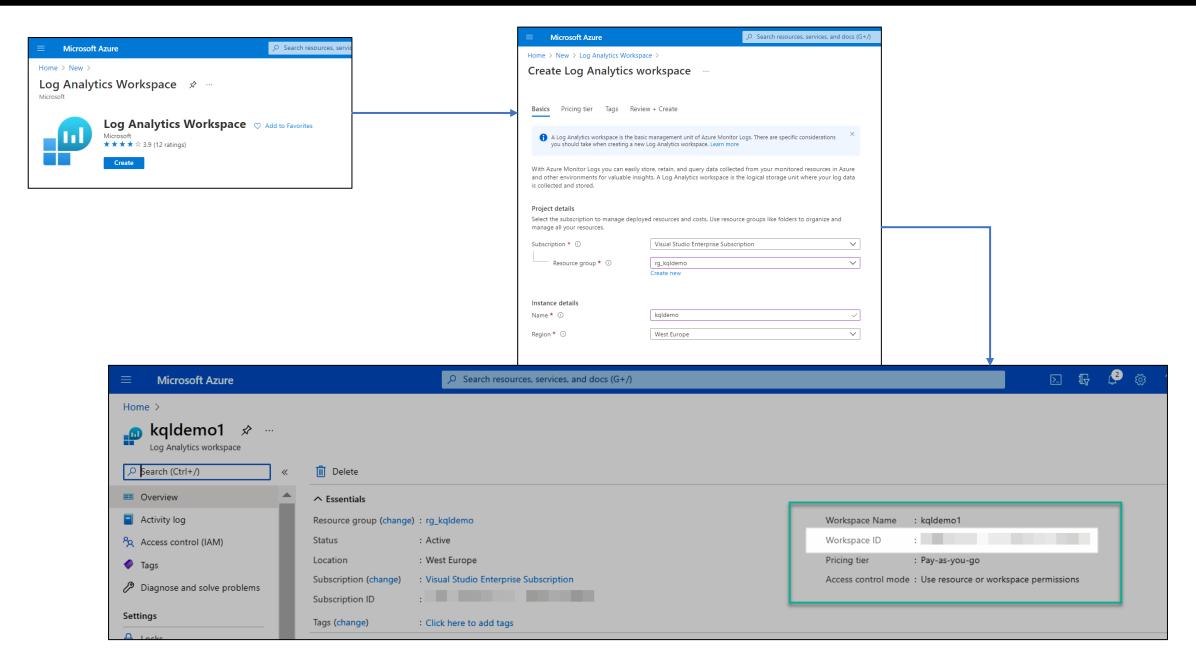


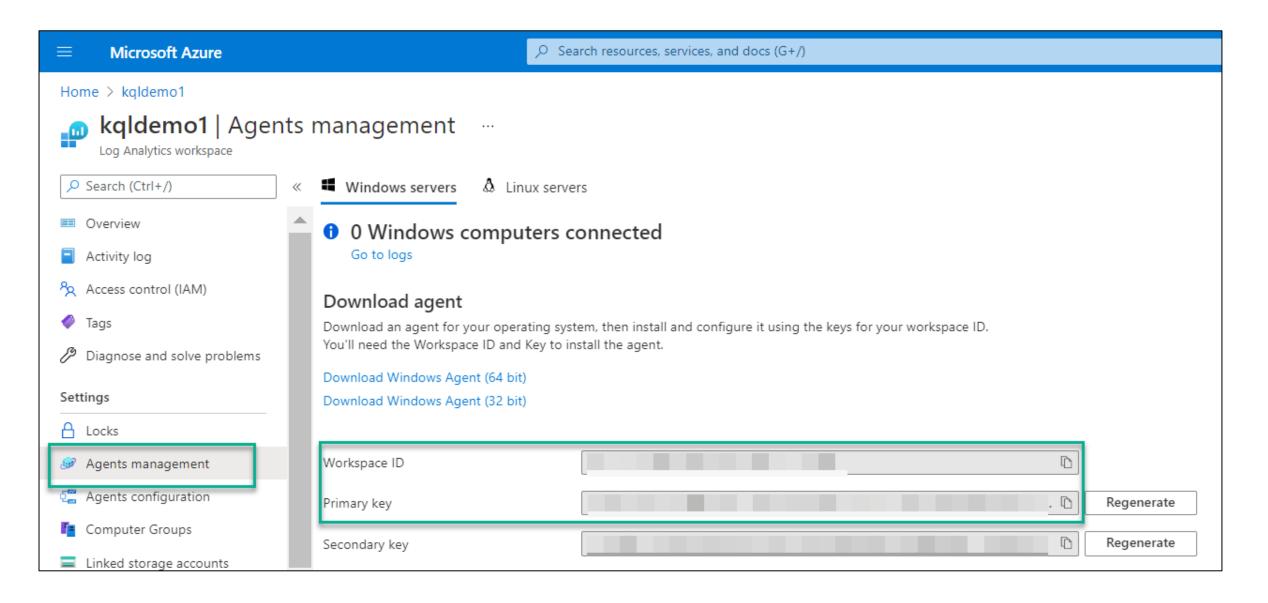
Recommendations

- Use time filters first
- When using join, make the table with fewer rows come first (the left table)
- Look in specific columns
- Use filters as early as possible, before using extend
- Has beats contains
- Size new queries—If you suspect that a query will return a large result set, assess it first using the count operator. Use limit or its synonym take to avoid large result sets.

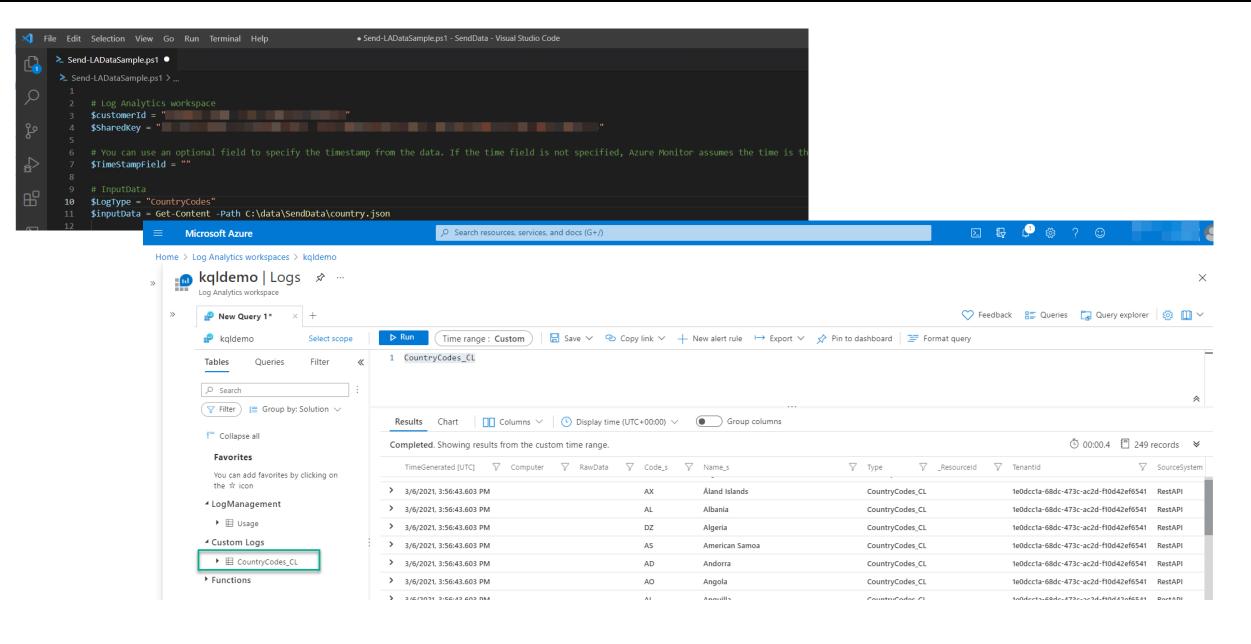
For more recommendations and best practices refer to the learning and training references

Create your own log Analytics workspace

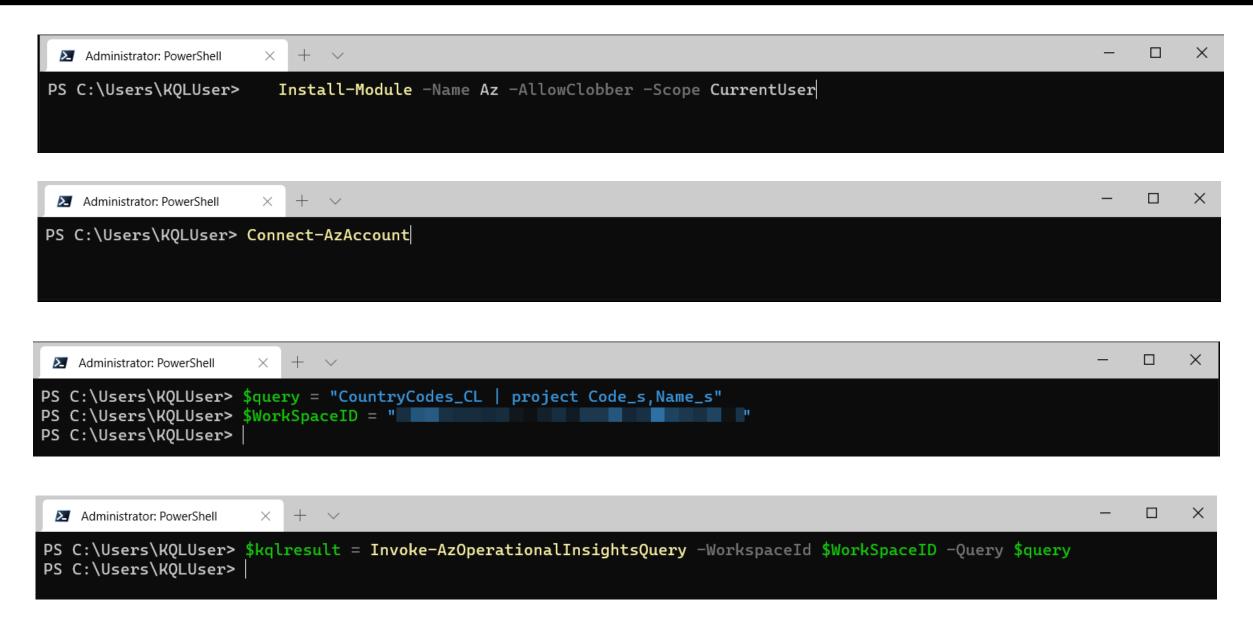




Send log data to log analytics with PowerShell



Executing KQL queries from PowerShell



Executing KQL queries from PowerShell

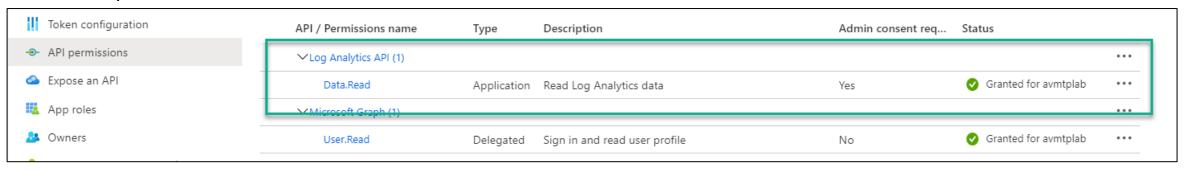


Executing KQL queries using API

Register an application, in this example the name is "Access log Analytics"

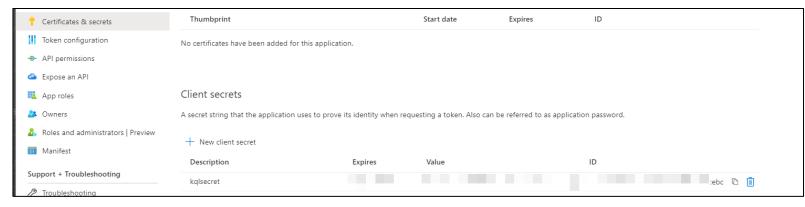


Grant API permissions

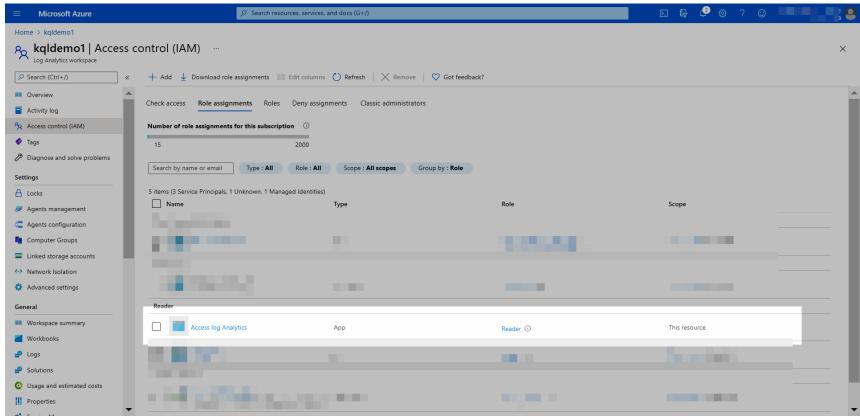


Executing KQL queries using API

Create a client secret



On the log analytics workspace grant permissions

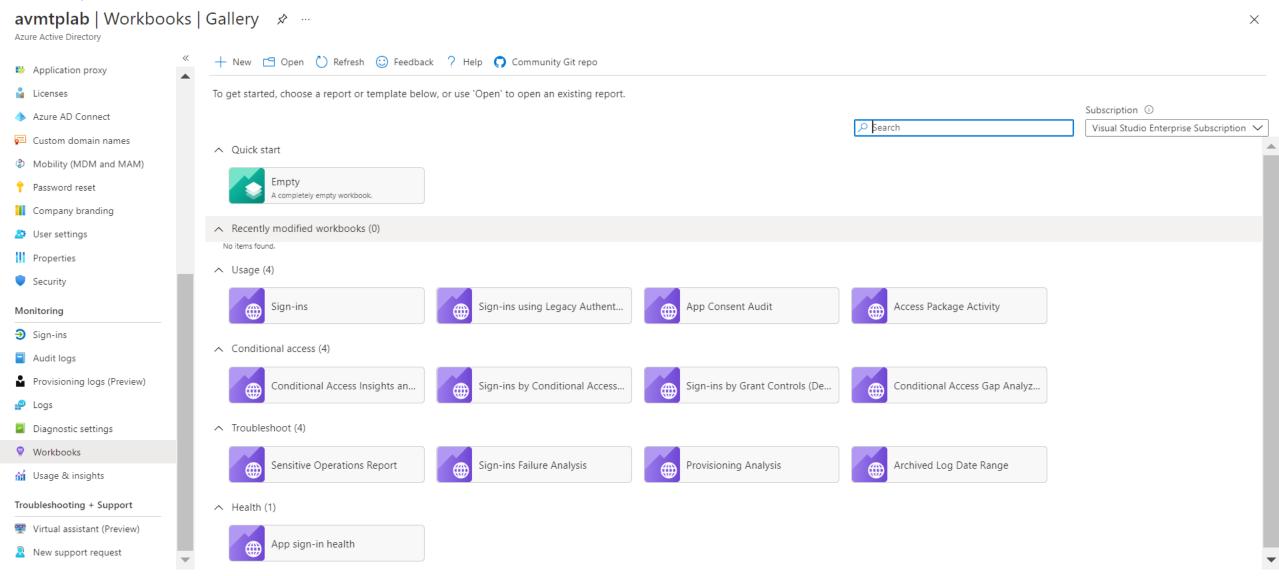


Executing KQL queries using API

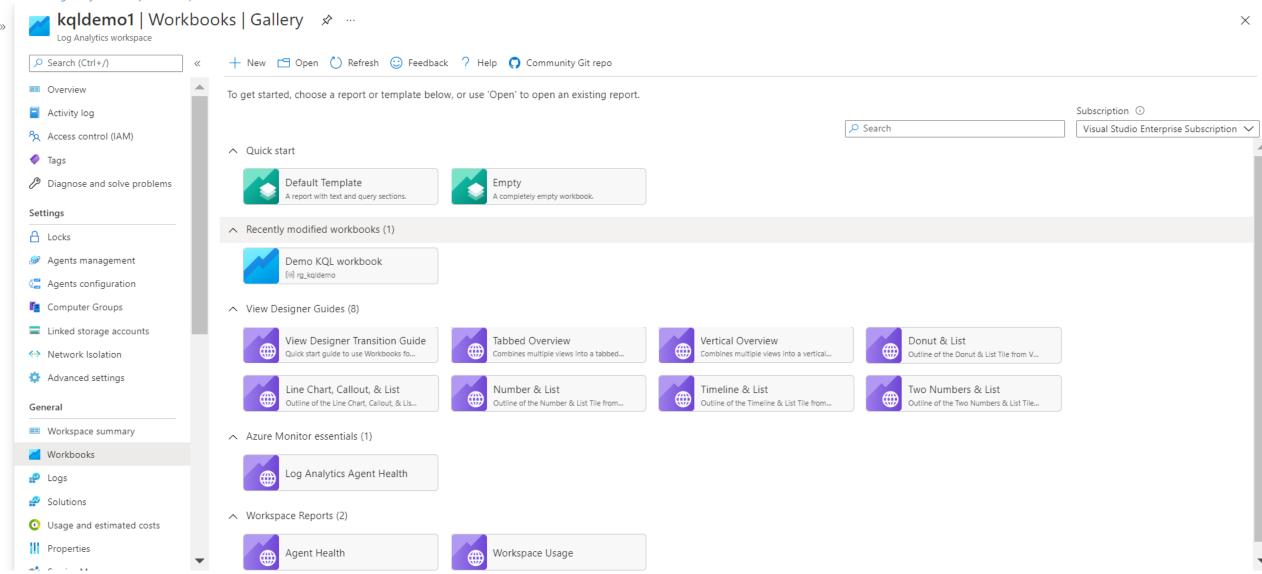
```
QuerylogAPI.ps1 > ...
     $TenantId = '
      $loggingClientID =
     $loggingSecret =
      $logAnalyticsWorkspace =
      $customLogName = "CountryCodes CL"
      # Get Access Token for Log Analytics to allow KQL Queries to get last ingested events in Custom Logs
      $loginURL = "https://login.microsoftonline.com/$TenantId/oauth2/token"
      $resource = "https://api.loganalytics.io"
     $authbody = @{grant type = "client credentials"; resource = $resource; client id = $loggingClientID; client secret = $loggingSecret }
      $oauth = Invoke-RestMethod -Method Post -Uri $loginURL -Body $authbody
11
12
      $headerParams = @{'Authorization' = "$($oauth.token_type) $($oauth.access_token)" }
13
      $logAnalyticsBaseURI = "https://api.loganalytics.io/v1/workspaces"
15
      # submit the query
      $result = invoke-RestMethod -method Get -uri "$($logAnalyticsBaseURI)/$($logAnalyticsWorkspace)/query?query=$($customLogName)" -Headers $headerParams
     $headerRow = $null
     $headerRow = $result.tables.columns | Select-Object name
      $columnsCount = $headerRow.Count
      logData = @()
      foreach ($row in $result.tables.rows) {
          $data = new-object PSObject
24
          for ($i = 0; $i -lt $columnsCount; $i++) {
              $data | add-member -membertype NoteProperty -name $headerRow[$i].name -value $row[$i]
          $logData += $data
                                                                                                   PROBLEMS 1 OUTPUT TERMINAL DEBUG CONSOLE
          $data = $null
                                                                                                   RawData
                                                                                                   Code s
                                                                                                                 : US
                                                                                                  Name s
                                                                                                                 : United States
      $logData
                                                                                                   Type
                                                                                                                 : CountryCodes_CL
                                                                                                   ResourceId
                                                                                                   TenantId
                                                                                                                 : 6237b86f-6859-4f86-ab56-6cd0c788dd55
                                                                                                   SourceSystem
                                                                                                                 : RestAPI
```

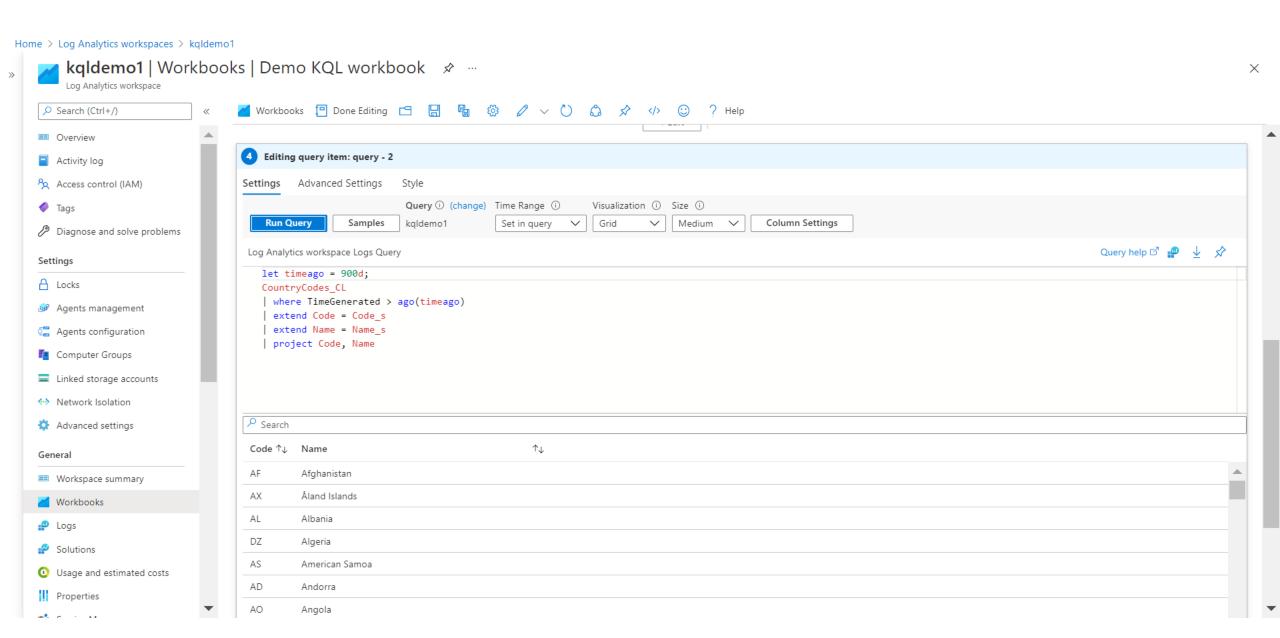
https://blog.darrenjrobinson.com/sending-and-querying-custom-log-data-to-azure-monitor-logs/

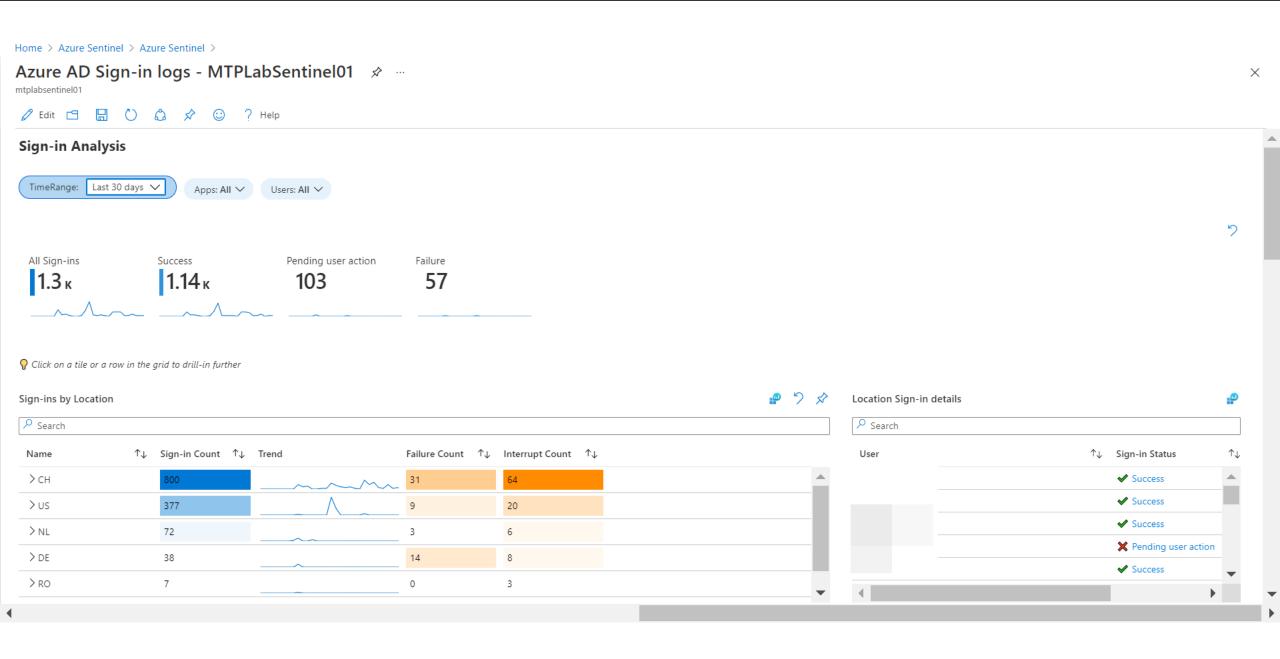
Home > avmtplab



Home > Log Analytics workspaces > kqldemo1





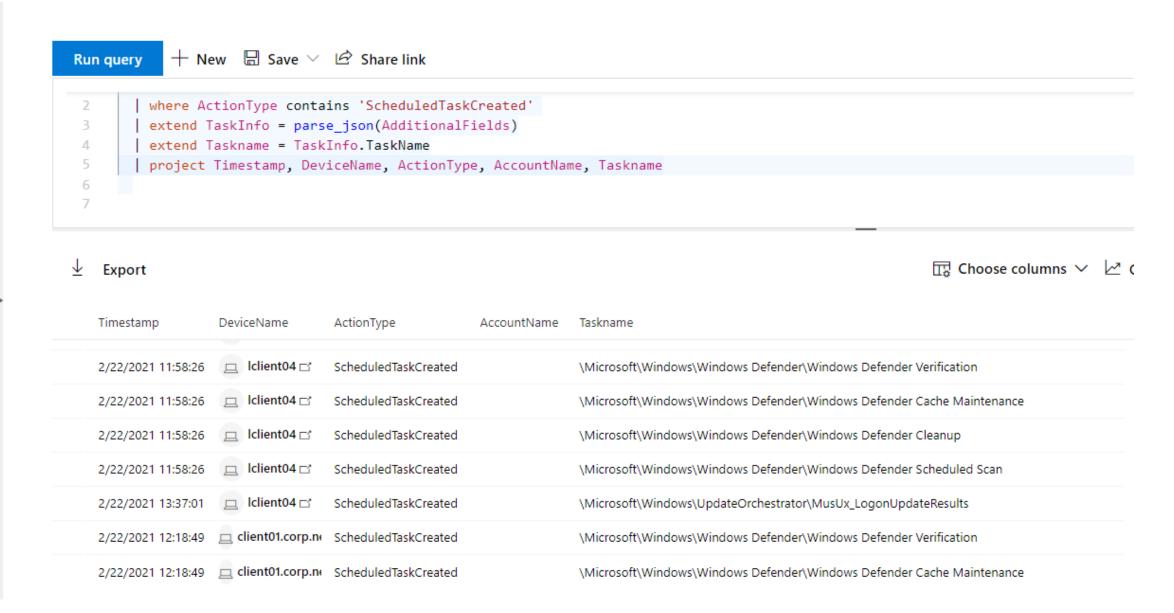




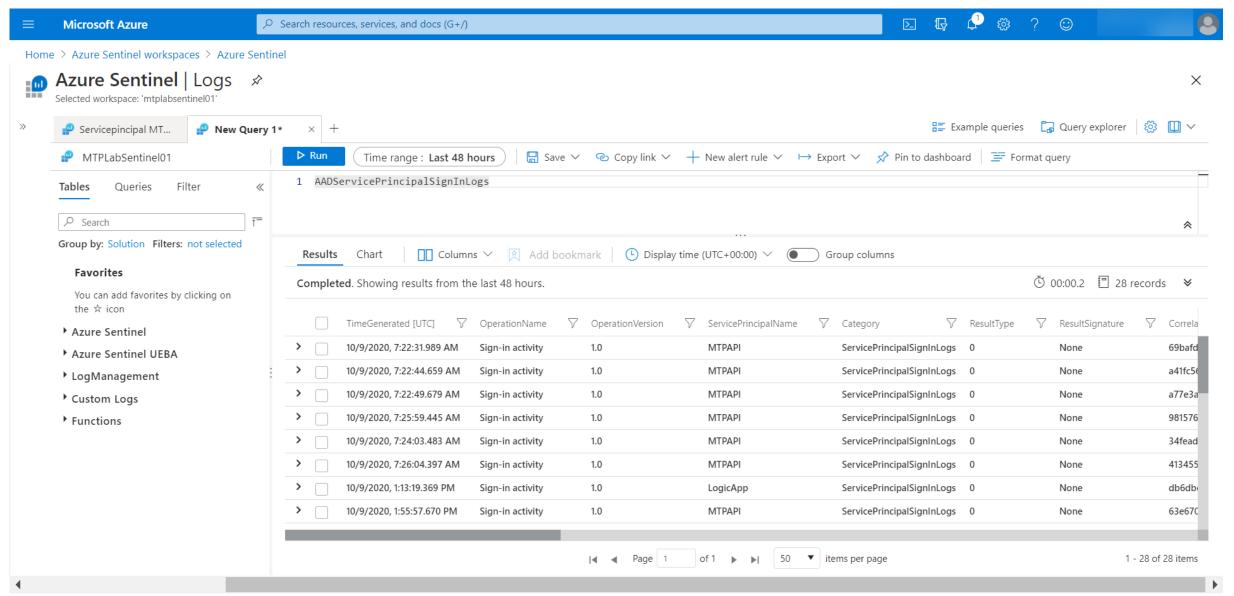
Inspiration

(Real world examples)

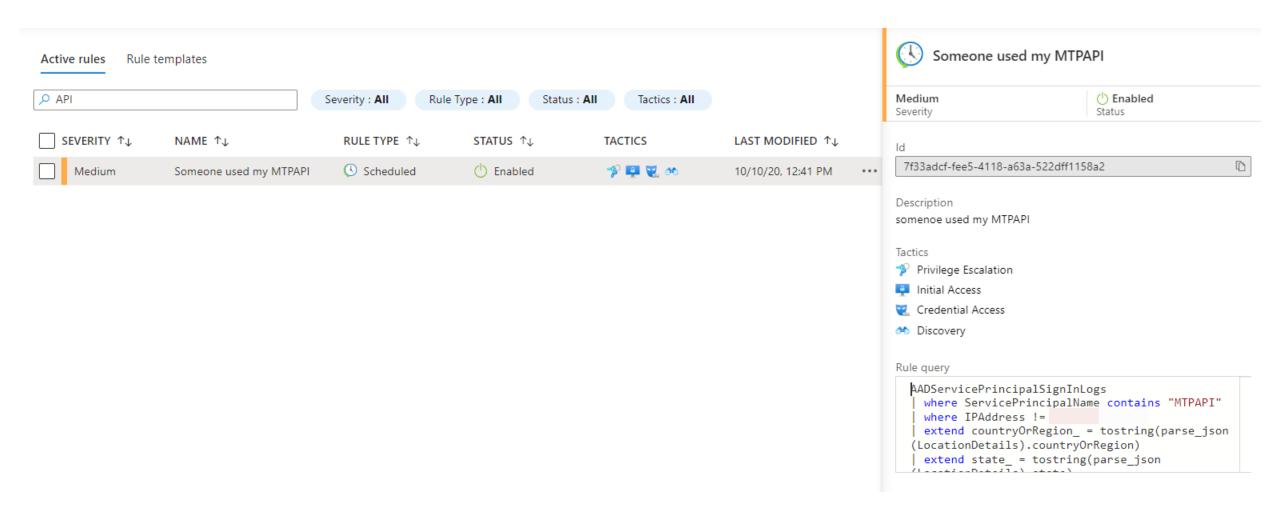
Security – Hunting for new scheduled tasks



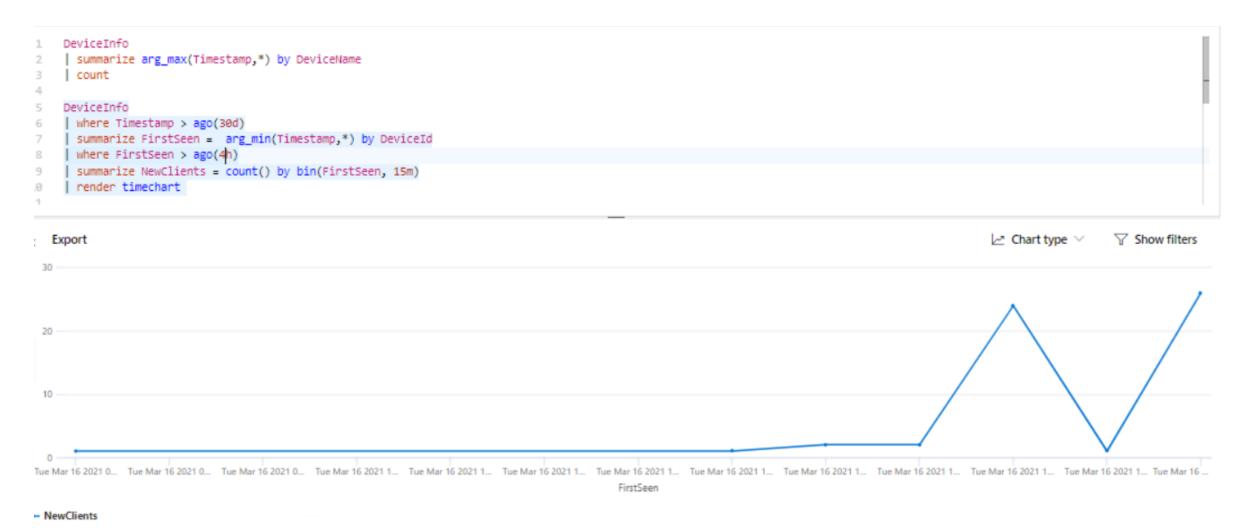
Monitoring AzureAD Service Principal sign-ins



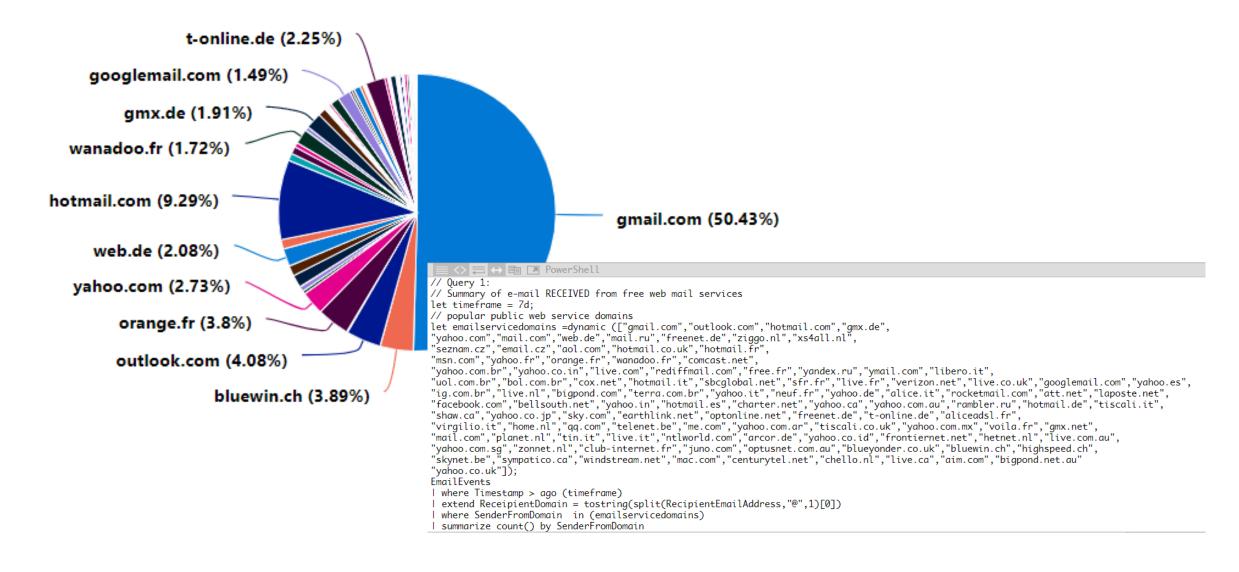
Monitoring AzureAD Service Principal sign-ins

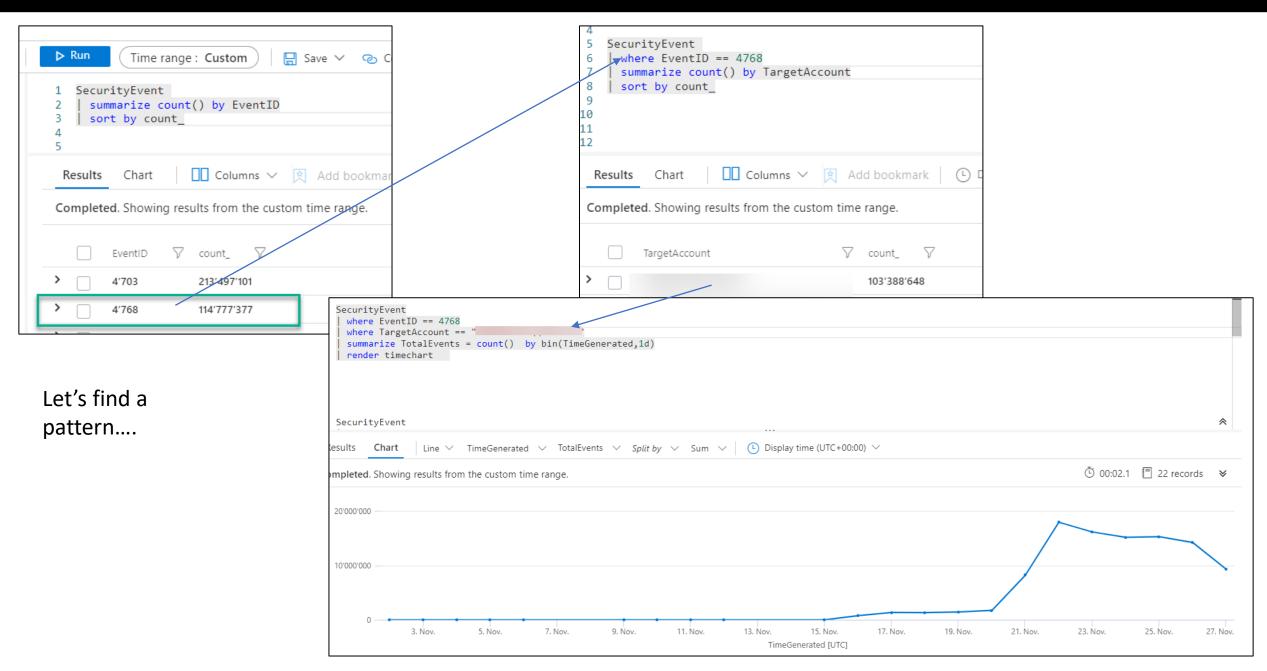


Monitoring Microsoft Defender for Endpoint deployment progress

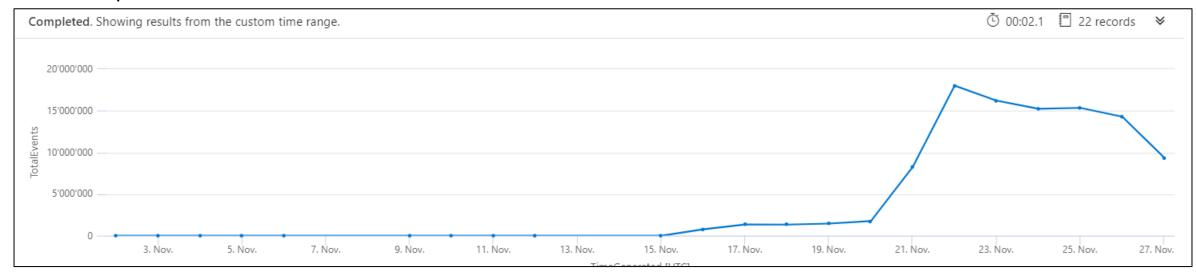


Monitoring e-mail traffic to and from free mail services

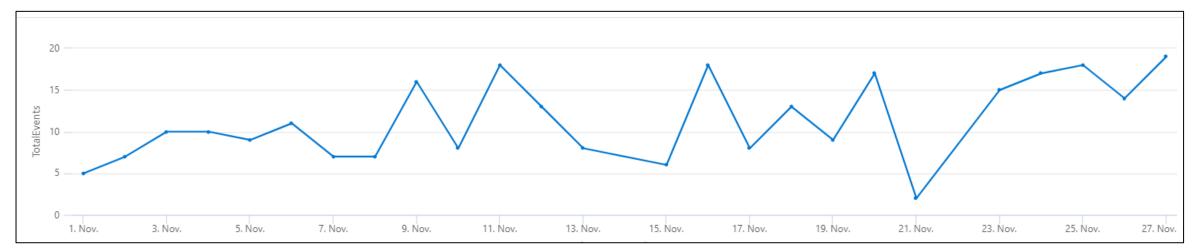




Stats from problematic account

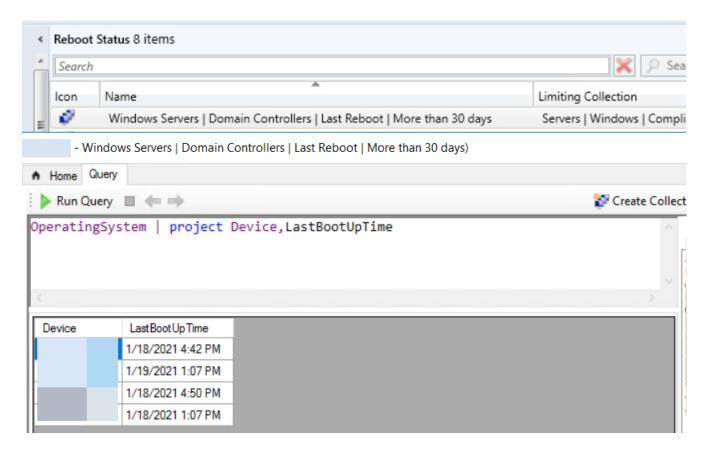


Stats from a random account



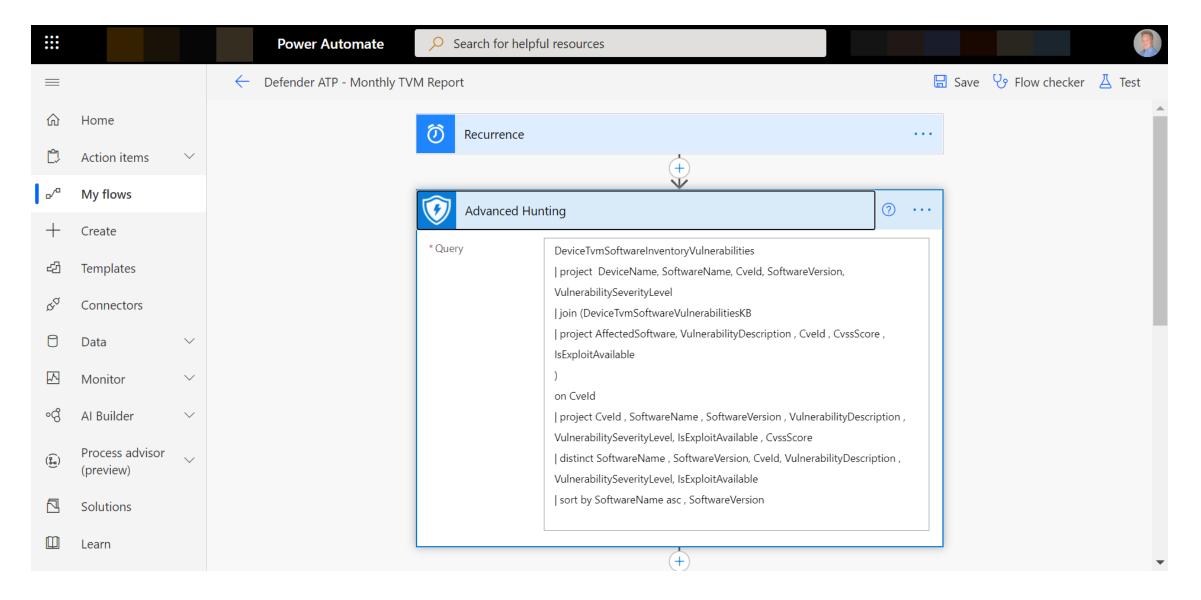
CMPivot provides access to **real-time** state of devices managed with Microsoft Endpoint Configuration Manager. It immediately runs a query on all currently connected devices in the target collection and returns the results.

CMPivot uses a **subset** of the Kusto Query Language (KQL).



https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/mem/configmgr/core/servers/manage/cmpivot

Run KQL in Power Automate





Learn
Practice
Share

Learning Resources

Log Analytics Demo Environment

https://dev.loganalytics.io/

https://analytics.applicationinsights.io/demo#/discover/home

Microsoft Learn

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/search/?terms=KUSTO&category=Learn https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/search/?terms=kql&category=Learn

Best practices for queries

https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/blog/best-practices-for-queries-used-in-log-alerts-rules/

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/data-explorer/kusto/query/best-practices

https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/security/mtp/advanced-hunting-best-practices?view=o365-worldwide

Kusto King Blog

https://www.kustoking.com/

Microsoft 365 Defender Hunting Queries

https://github.com/microsoft/Microsoft-365-Defender-Hunting-Queries

Azure Sentinel

https://github.com/Azure/Azure-Sentinel

Pluralsight

https://www.pluralsight.com/courses/kusto-query-language-kql-from-scratch

https://www.pluralsight.com/courses/microsoft-azure-data-exploring

Other great KQL resources

https://identityandsecuritydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2020/08/kql_internals_hk.pdf

https://github.com/ashwin-patil/blue-teaming-with-kql

This slide and demo scripts

https://github.com/alexverboon/SessionPresentations/tree/main/Introduction%20into%20KQL

Thank You