

Splunk Fundamentals 2 – Lab Exercises

There are a number of source types used in these lab exercises.

Index	Type	Sourcetype	Interesting Fields
web	Online sales	access_combined	action, bytes, categoryId, clientip, itemId, JSESSIONID, price, productId, product_name, referer, referer_domain, sale_price, status, user, useragent
security	Active Directory	winauthentication_security	action, app, Authentication_Package, name, Reason, signature, src_ip, subject
	Badge reader	history_access	Address_Description, Department, Device, Email, Event_Description, First_Name, last_Name, Rfid, Username
	Web server	linux_secure	action, app, COMMAND, dest, process, src_city, src_country, src_ip, src_port, user, vendor_action
sales	Business Intelligence server	sales_entries	AcctCode, CustomerID, TransactionID
	Retail sales	vendor_sales	AcctID, categoryId, product_name, productId, sale_price, Vendor, VendorCity, VendorCountry, VendorID, VendorStateProvince
network	Email security data	cisco_esa	dcid, icid, mailfrom, mailto, mid
	Web security appliance data	cisco_wsa_squid	action, cs_method, cs_mime_type, cs_url, cs_username, sc_bytes, sc_http_status, sc_result_code, severity, src_ip, status, url, usage, x_mcafee_virus_name, x_wbrs_score, x_webcat_code_abbrev
	Firewall data	cisco_firewall	bcg_ip, dept, Duration, name, IP, lname, location, rfid, splunk_role, splunk_server, Username
games	Game logs	SimCubeBeta	date_hour, date_mday, date_minute, date_month, date_second, date_wday, date_year, data_zone, eventtype, index, linecount, punct, splunk_server, timeendpos, timestartpos

Lab Exercise 2 – Beyond Search Fundamentals

Description

This exercise reviews the concepts presented in Module 2, including using the Job Inspector.

NOTE: If at any point you do not see results, check your search syntax and/or expand your time range.

Questions

.....
Examine these searches. Which searches would not return results?
.....

1. index=security sourcetype=linux_secure
2. index=web Sourcetype=access_combined
3. index=web sourcetype=AcceSS_Combined
4. index=security sourcetype=linux_se%

.....
What is the most efficient filter?
.....

.....
Identify the 3 Selected Fields that Splunk returns by default for every event.
.....


Steps

Task 1: Change your account time zone setting to reflect your local time.


1. If you have not done so, launch the lab server by clicking the “Connect to Lab Server” button in the module for this lab.
2. Click your user name on the navigation bar and select **Preferences**.
3. From the **Time zone** dropdown, select your local time zone.
4. From the Default app dropdown, select Search & Reporting.

Preferences

×



Global



SPL Editor

Use these properties to set your timezone, default application, and default search time range picker. You can also specify if background jobs should restart when Splunk software restarts.

Time zone

(GMT-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada) ▾

Set a time zone for this user.

Default application

Search & Reporting ▾

This setting overrides any default application.

Restart background jobs

☐

Restart background jobs when the Splunk software is restarted.


Cancel

Apply


5. Select the **SPL Editor** button.
6. Turn on the **Search auto-format** selector. This option will auto-format line breaks in your search bar for easier reading. If you decide you do not like this functionality, please turn it off.
7. Click **Apply**.

Preferences

×



Global



SPL Editor

The advanced editor can provide auto-formatting, line numbers, and highlight search syntax for increased readability. You can also turn off the advanced editor to use the basic search format.

Advanced editor

☒

General

Themes

Search assistant

Full

Compact

None

Full search assistant is useful when first learning to create searches. Compact provides more succinct assistance.

Line numbers

☐

Shows numbers next to each line in the search syntax.

Search auto-format

☒

Automatically format search syntax to improve readability.

Cancel

Apply

Task 3: Use the Search Job Inspector to troubleshoot problems.

8. Navigate to the **Search & Reporting** app. Perform and save all your searches in this app.

9. Search for `index=web sourcetype=access_combined productid=*` over the **last 15 minutes**. Be sure to retain case.
Are any results returned? _____
10. Click **Job > Inspect Job** to open the Search Job Inspector and inspect the results.
11. Now, search for `index=web sourcetype=access_combined productId=*` over the **last 15 minutes**. Be sure to retain case.
Are any results returned? _____
12. Open the Search Job Inspector again and inspect the results.

Scenario: IT wants to check for issues with customer purchases in the online store.

13. Search for online sales transactions during the **last 30 days**. Using the `table` command, display only the customer IP [`clientip`], the customer action [`action`], and the http status [`status`] of each event.
Be sure to include an index in your search.

Task 4: Use Search Job Inspector to view performance.

14. Search for `index=web sourcetype=access_combined` over the **last 30 days** using the Verbose search mode, then open the Job Inspector (Job > Inspect Job). How much time did it take for the search to complete? _____
15. Run the same search using the Fast search mode. How much time did it take for the search job to complete? _____

NOTE: Given the small amount of data in our lab environment, comparing the Fast mode and Smart mode completion times probably won't produce useful data.