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Power of Splunk Search Processing Language (SPL™)

Stephen Luedtke | Sr. Technical Product Marketing Manager

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1. Overview & Anatomy of a Search

Quick refresher on search language and structure

2. SPL Commands and Examples

 Searching, charting, converging, mapping, transactions, anomalies, exploring

3. Custom Commands

Extend the capabilities of SPL

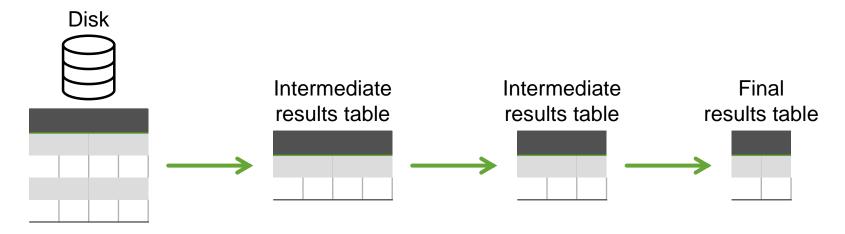
4. Q&A

SPL Overview

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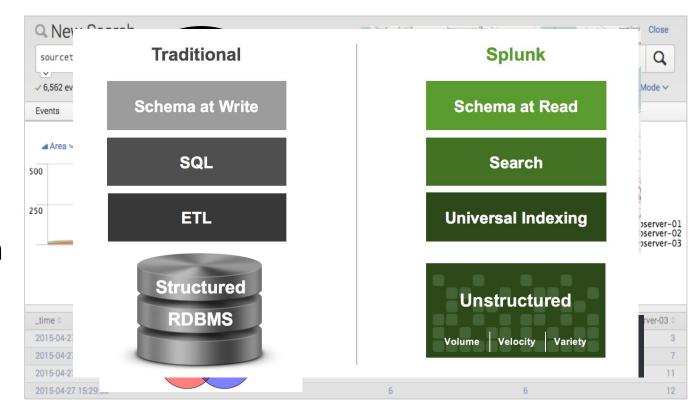
SPL Overview

- Over 140 search commands
- Syntax was originally based upon the Unix pipeline and SQL and is optimized for time-series data
- The scope of SPL includes data searching, filtering, modification, manipulation, enrichment, insertion and deletion
- Includes machine learning such as anomaly detection



Why Create a New Query Language?

- Flexibility and effectiveness on small and **big** data
- Late-binding schema
- More/better methods of correlation
- Not just analyze, but visualize



SPL Basic Structure

search and filter | munge | report | cleanup

sourcetype=access*

eval KB=bytes/1024

| stats sum(KB) dc(clientip)

rename sum(KB) AS "Total KB" dc(clientip) AS "Unique Customers"

SPL Examples

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- Find the needle in the haystack
- Charting statistics and predicting values
- Enriching and converging data sources
- Map geographic data in real time
- Identifying anomalies
- Transactions
- Data exploration & finding relationships between fields
- Custom commands

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Eval – Just Getting Started!

Splunk Search Quick Reference Guide

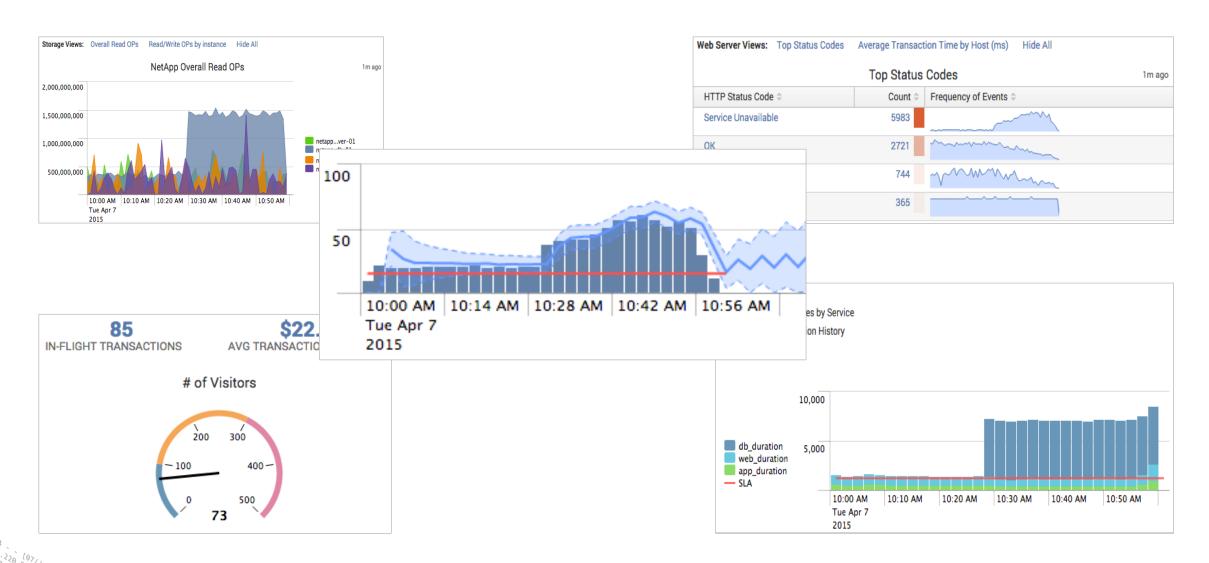
Common Eval Functions		The eval command calculates an expression and puts the resulting value into a field (e.g. " eval force = mass * acceleration"). The following table lists some of the functions used with the eval command. You can also use basic arithmetic operators (+ - * / %), string concatenation (e.g., " eval name = last . "," . first"), and Boolean operations (AND OR NOT XOR $< > <= >= != = = LIKE$).	
Function	Description		Examples
abs(X)	Returns the absolute value of X.		abs(number)
case(X,"Y",)	Takes pairs of arguments X and Y, where X arguments are Boolean expressions. When evaluated to TRUE, the arguments return the corresponding Y argument.		case(error == 404, "Not found", error == 500,"Internal Server Error", error == 200, "OK")
ceil(X)	Ceiling of a number X.		ceil(1.9)
cidrmatch("X",Y)	Identifies IP addresses that belong to a particular subnet.		cidrmatch("123.132.32.0/25",ip)
coalesce(X,)	Returns the first value that is not null.		coalesce(null(), "Returned val", null())
cos(X)	Calculates the cosine of X.		n=cos(0)
exact(X)	Evaluates an expression X using double precision floating point arithmetic.		exact(3.14*num)
exp(X)	Returns eX.		exp(3)
if(X,Y,Z)	If X evaluates to TRUE, the result is the second argument Y. If X evaluates to FALSE, the result evaluates to the third argument Z.		if(error==200, "OK", "Error")
isbool(X)	Returns TRUE if X is Boolean.		isbool(field)
isint(X)	Returns TRUE if X is an integ	ger.	isint(field)
isnull(X)	Returns TRUE if X is NULL.		isnull(field)
isstr()	Returns TRUE if X is a string.		isstr(field)
len(X)	This function returns the character length of a string X.		len(field)

Returns TRUE if and only if X is like the SQLite pattern in Y. like(field, "addr%")

like(X,"Y")

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Stats, Timechart, Eventstats, Streamstats



Stats/Timechart – But Wait, There's More!

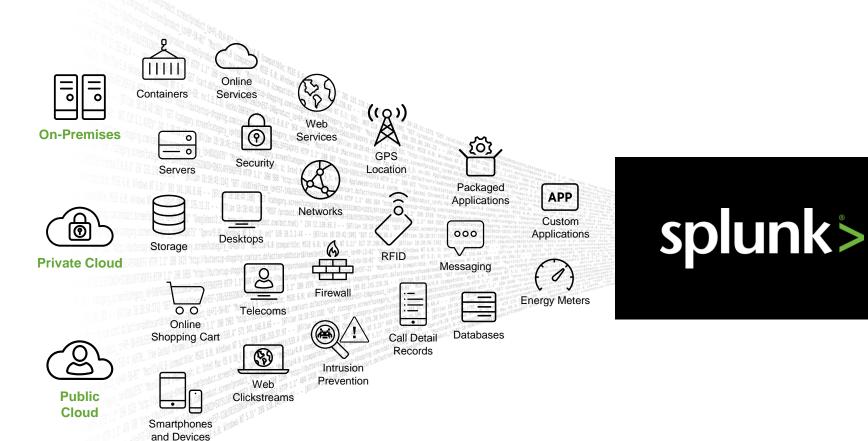
Splunk Search Quick Reference Guide

Common Sta	Common statistical functions used with the chart, stats, and timechart commands. Field names can be wildcarded, so avg(*delay) might calculate the average of the delay and xdelay fields.		
avg(X)	Returns the average of the values of field X.		
count(X)	Returns the number of occurrences of the field X. To indicate a specific field value to match, format X as eval(field="value").		
dc(X)	Returns the count of distinct values of the field X.		
earliest(X)	Returns the chronologically earliest seen value of X.		
latest(X)	Returns the chronologically latest seen value of X.		
max(X)	Returns the maximum value of the field X. If the values of X are non-numeric, the max is found from alphabetical ordering.		
median(X)	Returns the middle-most value of the field X.		
min(X)	Returns the minimum value of the field X. If the values of X are non-numeric, the min is found from alphabetical ordering.		
mode(X)	Returns the most frequent value of the field X.		
perc <x>(Y)</x>	Returns the X-th percentile value of the field Y. For example, perc5(total) returns the 5th percentile value of a field "total".		
range(X)	Returns the difference between the max and min values of the field X.		
stdev(X)	Returns the sample standard deviation of the field X.		
stdevp(X)	Returns the population standard deviation of the field X.		
sum(X)	Returns the sum of the values of the field X.		
sumsq(X)	Returns the sum of the squares of the values of the field X.		
values(X)	Returns the list of all distinct values of the field X as a multi-value entry. The order of the values is alphabetical.		
var(X)	Returns the sample variance of the field X.		

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Converging Data Sources

Index Untapped Data: Any Source, Type, Volume



Ask Any Question

Application Delivery

IT Operations

Security, Compliance and Fraud

Business Analytics

Industrial Data and the Internet of Things

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Data Exploration

analyzefields anomalies arules associate cluster contingency correlate | fieldsummary

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Custom Commands

- What is a Custom Command?
 - "| haversine origin="47.62,-122.34" outputField=dist lat lon"
- Why do we use Custom Commands?
 - Run other/external algorithms on your Splunk data
 - Save time munging data (see Timewrap!)
 - Because you can!
- Create your own or download as Apps
 - <u>Haversine</u> (Distance between two GPS coords)
 - <u>Timewrap</u> (Enhanced Time overlay)
 - <u>Levenshtein</u> (Fuzzy string compare)
 - Base64 (Encode/Decode)

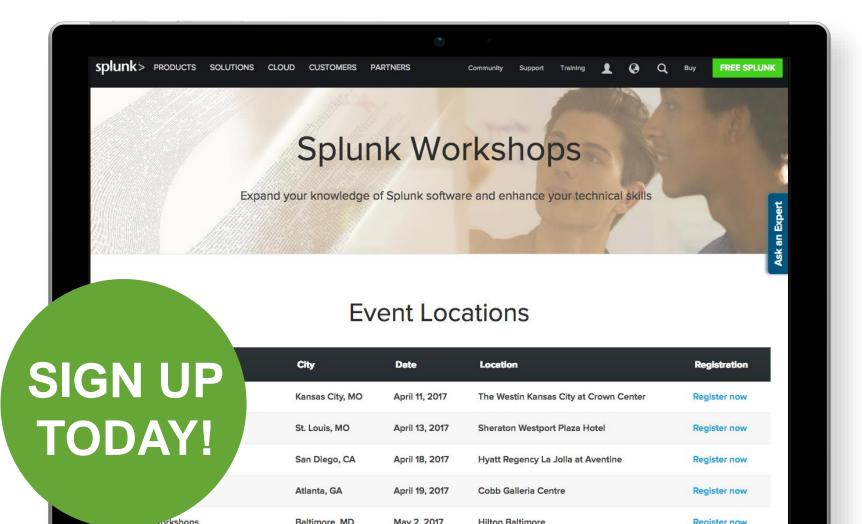
For More Information

- Additional information can be found in:
 - Power of SPL App!
 - Search Manual
 - Blogs
 - Answers
 - Exploring Splunk

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- Venue: Sheraton Fisherman's Wharf
- Time: 8:30am
- Register Soon!
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May 25: Sacramento

- Venue: Hyatt Regency Sacramento
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