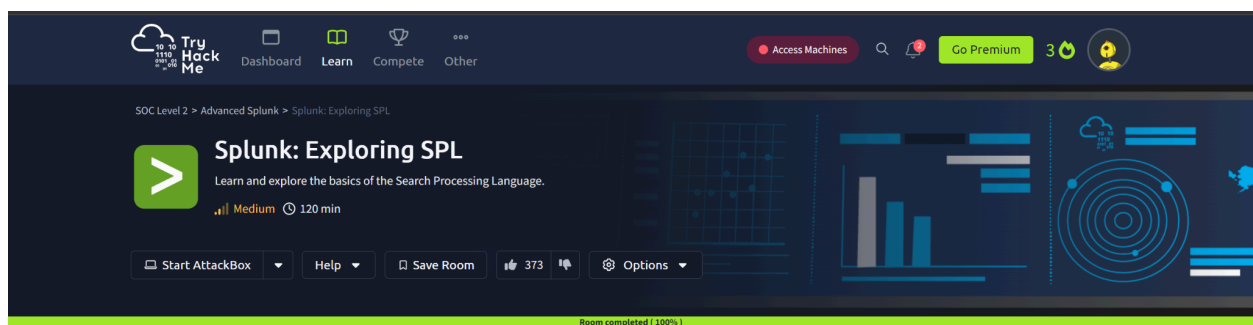


# SPLUNK: EXPLORING SPL

## ASSIGNMENT REPORT



**Peter Kinyumu,  
cs-sa07-24067,  
July 10th, 2024.**

# 1. INTRODUCTION

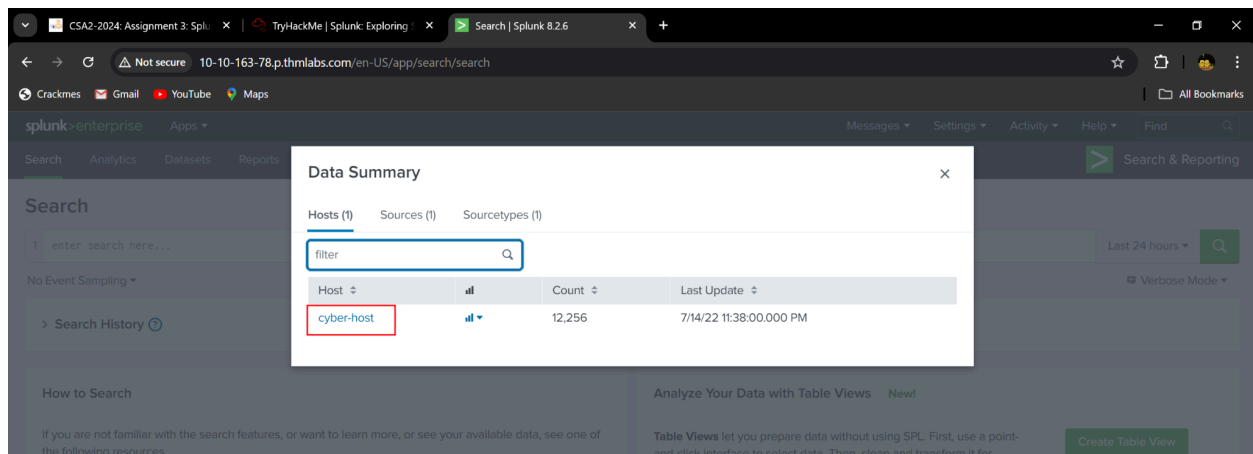
This room explores the basics of Splunk's Search Processing Language, a set of commands with a specific syntax that are used for searching, filtering, manipulation and visualization of log data ingested in the Splunk SIEM.

## 2. ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Connect With the Lab

a. What is the name of the host in the Data Summary tab?

- **cyber-host**



### Search & Reporting App Overview

a. In the search History, what is the 7th search query in the list? (excluding your searches from today)

- **index=windowslogs | chart count(EventCode) by Image**

**Search History**

Search	Actions	Last Run
source="Event_logs.json" host="cyber-host" index="windowslogs" sourcetype="_json"	<a href="#">Add to Search</a>	Fri Jul 15 2022 02:38:18
index=""	<a href="#">Add to Search</a>	Thu Jul 14 2022 07:25:19
*	<a href="#">Add to Search</a>	Mon Jul 04 2022 02:48:50
index="*   delete	<a href="#">Add to Search</a>	Mon Jul 04 2022 01:24:47
index="*   stats count by index	<a href="#">Add to Search</a>	Mon Jul 04 2022 01:24:31
index=windowslogs   chart count by Image	<a href="#">Add to Search</a>	Sun Jul 03 2022 23:40:27
<b>index=windowslogs   chart count(EventCode) by Image</b>	<a href="#">Add to Search</a>	Sun Jul 03 2022 23:40:14
index=windowslogs   chart count(EventCode) by User	<a href="#">Add to Search</a>	Sun Jul 03 2022 23:40:05
index=windowslogs   rare User	<a href="#">Add to Search</a>	Sun Jul 03 2022 23:38:21
index=windowslogs   rare EventID	<a href="#">Add to Search</a>	Sun Jul 03 2022 23:38:10

**b. In the left field panel, which Source IP has recorded max events?**

- **172.90.12.11**

**New Search**

1 **index=windowslogs**

✓ 12,256 events (before 7/10/24 2:34:14:00 AM) No Event Sampling

Events (12,256) Patterns Statistics Visualization

Format Timeline Zoom Out Zoom to Selection Deselect

1 day per column

**SourceIP**

7 Values, 0.702% of events

Selected Yes No

**Reports**

Top values Top values by time Rare values

Events with this field

Values	Count	%
<b>172.90.12.11</b>	<b>53</b>	61.628%
172.18.38.5	15	17.442%
fe80:0:0:c86e:cb04:bc03:d64f	10	11.628%
0:0:0:0:0:0:1	4	4.651%
fe80:0:0:7976:d2f2:1752:21b5	2	2.326%
224.0.0.251	1	1.163%
ff02:0:0:0:0:fb	1	1.163%

Hostname: Micheal.Beaven  
Keywords: -9223372036854776000

**c. How many events are returned when we apply the time filter to display events on 04/15/2022 and Time from 08:05 AM to 08:06 AM?**

● 134

The screenshot shows the Splunk Search interface. The search bar contains the query `index=windowslogs`. The results show 134 events from 4/15/22 8:05:00.000 AM to 4/15/22 8:06:00.000 AM. The event details are as follows:

Time	Event
4/15/22 8:05:56.000 AM	<pre>{ [-]   @version: 1   AccountName: SYSTEM   AccountType: User   Category: Registry value set (rule: RegistryEvent)   Channel: Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational   Details: QWORD (0x01d68a8f-0x68f75633)</pre>

## Splunk Processing Language Overview

a. How many Events are returned when searching for Event ID 1 AND User as \*James\*?

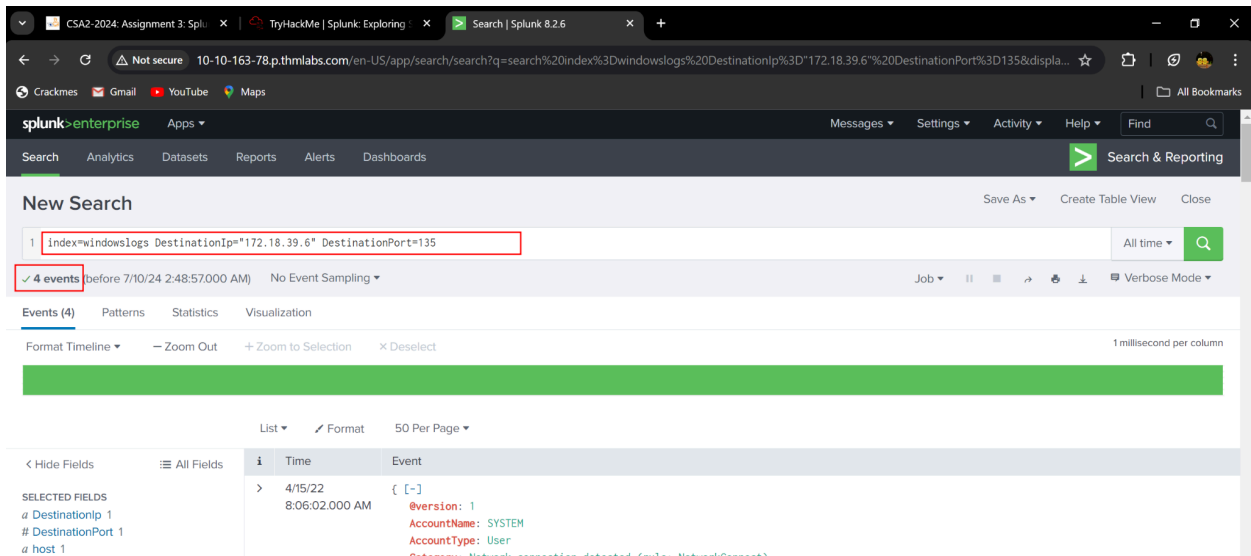
● 4

The screenshot shows the Splunk Search interface with the query `index=windowslogs User=*James* EventID=1`. The results show 4 events from before 7/10/24 2:46:02.000 AM. The event details are as follows:

Time	Event
4/15/22 8:06:02.000 AM	<pre>{ [-]   @version: 1   AccountName: SYSTEM   AccountType: User   Category: Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)   Channel: Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational   CommandLine: C:\windows\system32\net1 user /add Alberto paw0rd1   Company: Microsoft Corporation   CurrentDirectory: C:\windows\system32\   Description: Net Command   Domain: NT AUTHORITY</pre>

b. How many events are observed with Destination IP 172.18.39.6 AND destination Port 135?

● 4

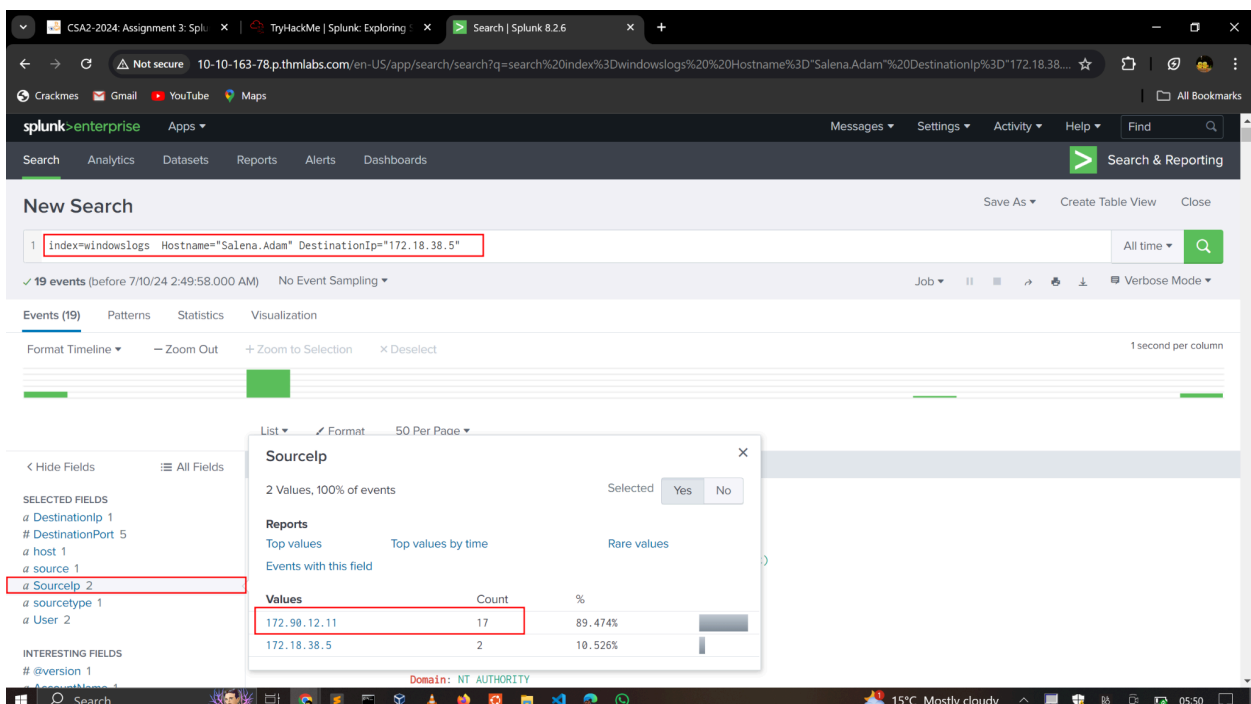


The screenshot shows the Splunk Search interface. The search bar contains the query: `index=windowslogs DestinationIp="172.18.39.6" DestinationPort=135`. The search results show 4 events. The first event is highlighted, showing the following details:

- Time: 4/15/22 8:06:02.000 AM
- Event: `{ [-]`
- @version: 1
- AccountName: SYSTEM
- AccountType: User
- Category: Network connection detected (rule: NetworkConnect)

c. What is the Source IP with highest count returned with this Search query? Search Query: `index=windowslogs Hostname="Salena.Adam" DestinationIp="172.18.38.5"`

● 172.90.12.11



The screenshot shows the Splunk Search interface. The search bar contains the query: `index=windowslogs Hostname="Salena.Adam" DestinationIp="172.18.38.5"`. The search results show 19 events. A 'SourceIP' table is displayed, showing the top values by count:

Values	Count	%
172.90.12.11	17	89.474%
172.18.38.5	2	10.526%

d. In the index windowslogs, search for all the events that contain the term cyber how many events returned?

● 0

The screenshot shows the Splunk Search interface. The search bar contains the query `index=windowslogs cyber`. Below the search bar, it indicates **0 events** found. The interface includes tabs for Events, Patterns, Statistics, and Visualization. A message box at the bottom states "No results found."

e. Now search for the term cyber\*, how many events are returned?

● 12256

The screenshot shows the Splunk Search interface with the query `index=windowslogs cyber*`. It indicates **12,256 events** found. The interface includes tabs for Events (12,256), Patterns, Statistics, and Visualization. Below the tabs, there is a table view showing event details. The first event is highlighted.

Time	Event
7/14/22 11:37:59.000 PM	<pre>{ [-]   @version: 1   AccountName: SYSTEM   AccountType: User   CallTrace: C:\windows\SYSTEM32\ntdll.dll+9c534[C:\windows\SYSTEM32\psmserviceexthost.dll+222a3[C:\windows\SYSTEM32\psmserviceexthost.dll+1a   Category: Process accessed (rule: ProcessAccess)</pre>

## Filtering results in SPL

a. What is the third EventID returned against this search query? Search Query:

**`index=windowslogs | table _time EventID Hostname SourceName | reverse`**

● 4103

The screenshot shows the Splunk Search interface. The search query is `index=windowslogs | table _time EventID Hostname SourceName | reverse`. The results show 12,256 events. The table displays the following data:

_time	EventID	Hostname	SourceName
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	4103	James.browne	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	4103	James.browne	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell

b. Use the dedup command against the Hostname field before the reverse command in the query mentioned in Question 1. What is the first username returned in the Hostname field?

- Salena.Adam

The screenshot shows the Splunk Search interface. The search query is `index=windowslogs | table _time EventID Hostname SourceName | dedup Hostname | reverse`. The results show 12,256 events. The table displays the following data:

_time	EventID	Hostname	SourceName
2022-04-15 08:06:38	3	Salena.Adam	Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon
2022-07-14 23:37:59	5156	James.browne	Microsoft-Windows-Security-Auditing
2022-07-14 23:37:59	10	Micheal.Beaven	Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon

## SPL - Structuring the search results

a. Using the Reverse command with the search query `index=windowslogs | table _time EventID Hostname SourceName` - what is the HostName that comes on top?

- James.browne

CSA2-2024: Assignment 3: Splunk | TryHackMe | Splunk: Exploring | Search | Splunk 8.2.6

Not secure 10-10-163-78.p.thmlabs.com/en-US/app/search/search?q=search%20index%3Dwindowslogs%20%7C%20table%20\_time%20EventID%20Hostname%20SourceName...

splunk>enterprise Apps Messages Settings Activity Help Find

Search Analytics Datasets Reports Alerts Dashboards Search & Reporting

### New Search

Save As Create Table View Close

```
1 index=windowslogs | table _time EventID Hostname SourceName
2 | reverse
```

12,256 events (before 7/10/24 3:00:02.000 AM) No Event Sampling Job

Events (12,256) Patterns Statistics (12,256) Visualization

100 Per Page Format Preview

_time	EventID	Hostname	SourceName
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	4103	James.browne	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell

b. What is the last EventID returned when the query in question 1 is updated with the tail command?

- 4103

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Not secure 10-10-163-78.p.thmlabs.com/en-US/app/search/search?q=search%20index%3Dwindowslogs%20%7C%20table%20\_time%20EventID%20Hostname%20SourceName%0A...

splunk>enterprise Apps Messages Settings Activity Help Find

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### New Search

Save As Create Table View Close

```
1 index=windowslogs | table _time EventID Hostname SourceName
2 | tail
```

12,256 events (before 7/10/24 3:04:22.000 AM) No Event Sampling Job

Events (12,256) Patterns Statistics (10) Visualization

100 Per Page Format Preview

_time	EventID	Hostname	SourceName
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	4103	James.browne	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	4103	James.browne	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	4103	James.browne	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	800	James.browne	PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:05:46	4103	James.browne	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell

c. Sort the above query against the SourceName. What is the top SourceName returned?

- Microsoft-Windows-Directory-Services-SAM



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Not secure 10-10-163-78.p.thmlabs.com/en-US/app/search/search?q=search%20index%3Dwindowslogs%20%7C%20table%20\_time%20EventID%20Hostname%20SourceName%0A... | All time

Search Analytics Datasets Reports Alerts Dashboards Search & Reporting

### New Search

1 index=windowslogs | table \_time EventID Hostname SourceName  
2 | sort SourceName

✓ 12,256 events (before 7/10/24 3:09:36.000 AM) No Event Sampling

Events (12,256) Patterns Statistics (10,000) Visualization

100 Per Page Format Preview

_time	EventID	Hostname	SourceName
2022-04-15 08:06:07	16977	James.browne	Microsoft-Windows-Directory-Services-SAM
2022-04-15 08:06:07	1502	James.browne	Microsoft-Windows-GroupPolicy
2022-04-15 08:06:48	4103	James.browne	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell
2022-04-15 08:06:48	4103	James.browne	Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell

## SPL - Structuring the search results

- a. List the top 8 Image processes using the top command - what is the total count of the 6th Image?

● 196

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Not secure 10-10-163-78.p.thmlabs.com/en-US/app/search/search?q=search%20index%3Dwindowslogs%20%7C%20top%20limit%3D8%20Image&display.page.search.mode=verbo... | All time

splunk>enterprise Apps Messages Settings Activity Help Find

Search Analytics Datasets Reports Alerts Dashboards Search & Reporting

### New Search

1 index=windowslogs | top limit=8 Image

✓ 12,256 events (before 7/10/24 3:13:21.000 AM) No Event Sampling

Events (12,256) Patterns Statistics (8) Visualization

100 Per Page Format Preview

Image	count	percent
C:\windows\system32\svchost.exe	1642	38.836329
C:\windows\system32\backgroundTaskHost.exe	547	12.937559
C:\Windows\System32\svchost.exe	426	10.075686
C:\windows\system32\taskhostw.exe	250	5.912961
C:\Windows\System32\BackgroundTransferHost.exe	210	4.966887
C:\Windows\System32\backgroundTaskHost.exe	196	4.635762
C:\Windows\System32\wbem\WmiPrvSE.exe	108	2.554399
C:\Windows\System32\usocoreworker.exe	95	2.246925

Windows Search 15°C Mostly cloudy 06:13

- b. Using the rare command, identify the user with the least number of activities captured?

● James

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Not secure 10-10-163-78.p.thmlabs.com/en-US/app/search/search?q=search%20index%3Dwindowslogs%20%0A%7C%20stats%20count%20by%20User%20%0A%7C%20sort%20-%20count%20-%20reverse

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### New Search

Save As Create Table View Close

```

1 index=windowslogs
2 | stats count by User
3 | sort - count
4 | reverse

```

12,256 events (before 7/10/24 3:16:58.000 AM) No Event Sampling Job

Events (12,256) Patterns Statistics (4) Visualization

100 Per Page Format Preview

User	count
Cybertees\James	5
NT AUTHORITY\NETWORK SERVICE	20
Cybertees\Alberto	24
NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM	70

c. Create a pie-chart using the chart command - what is the count for the conhost.exe process?

● 70

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Not secure 10-10-163-78.p.thmlabs.com/en-US/app/search/search?q=search%20index%3Dwindowslogs%20%0A%7C%20%20chart%20count%20by%20Image&display.page.search...

splunk>enterprise Apps Messages Settings Activity Help Find

Search Analytics Datasets Reports Alerts Dashboards Search & Reporting

### New Search

Save As Create Table View Close

```

1 index=windowslogs
2 | chart count by Image

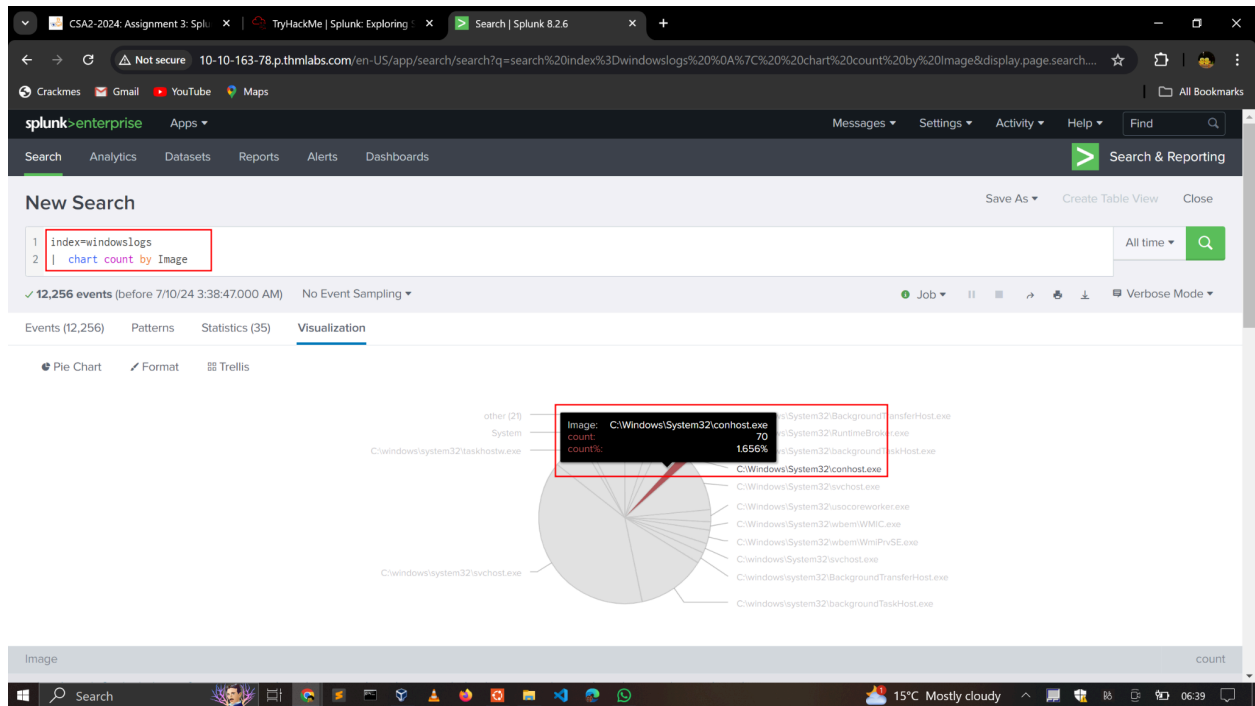
```

12,256 events (before 7/10/24 3:38:47.000 AM) No Event Sampling Job

Events (12,256) Patterns Statistics (35) Visualization

Pie Chart Format Trellis

Image	count
C:\windows\system32\svchost.exe	70
C:\Windows\System32\BackgroundTransferHost.exe	1
C:\Windows\System32\RuntimeBroker.exe	1
C:\Windows\System32\backgroundTaskHost.exe	1
C:\Windows\System32\conhost.exe	1
C:\Windows\System32\svchost.exe	1
C:\Windows\System32\usocoreworker.exe	1
C:\Windows\System32\wbem\WMI.exe	1
C:\Windows\System32\wbem\WmiPrivSE.exe	1
C:\Windows\System32\svchost.exe	1
C:\Windows\system32\BackgroundTransferHost.exe	1
C:\Windows\system32\backgroundTaskHost.exe	1
other (2%)	2
System	1
C:\windows\system32\taskhost.exe	1



### 3. MODULE COMPLETION

<https://tryhackme.com/p/c1ph3rbnuk>

Course: Cyber Security Analyst TryHackMe | Splunk: Exploring | SPLUNK: EXPLORING SPL - Go... | INTRO TO LOG ANALYSIS - Go...

tryhackme.com/room/splunkexploringspl

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### Splunk: Exploring SPL

Learn and explore the basics of the Search Processing Language.

Medium 120 min

Start AttackBox Help Save Room 373 Options

Room completed (100%)

- Task 1 Introduction
- Task 2 Connect with the Lab
- Task 3 Search & Reporting App Overview
- Task 4 Splunk Processing Language Overview
- Task 5 Filtering the Results in SPL
- Task 6 SPL - Structuring the Search Results
- Task 7 Transformational Commands in SPL
- Task 8 Recap and Conclusion

Search 16°C Mostly cloudy 07:38

## **4. CONCLUSION**

This assignment gave me a glimpse of working with Splunk for event log analysis. I have learned how to write SPL commands to retrieve, filter, transform, search and visualize data in Splunk. This knowledge will help me as a security analyst to sift through a mountain of logs generated daily in a work environment and identify anomalies and or track evidence of a security incident.