

DRAFT

Learning from the Past:

Tools and Techniques for Timeline Analysis

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Life's for Sharing



Agenda

- What can we learn from the past?
- Timestamps
 - Classic data sources
 - Formats
- How to find more timestamps
- Leveraging log2timeline
- Visualization



What can we learn from the past?

- Timeline: a list of events, ordered by their time of occurrence
- Analysis of a timeline will help to
 - correlate events
 - find root cause
 - falsify your hypothesis
 - „A happend earlier than B“ rules out that B caused A
 - „A happend earlier than B“ is no proof that A caused B
- Do not jump to conclusions!



Examples of time stamps

Classic sources

- Logfiles, e.g. syslog

```
May  2 19:35:10 mx1dbn exim[5958]: End queue run: pid=5958
```

- MACB times

```
$ fls -m c: myimage.E01 > myimage.body
```

```
$ mactime -b myimage.body
```

```
...
```

```
Fri Aug 20 2004 17:05:58      168 ...b d/drwxrwxrwx 0    0    9947-144-5 c:/Program Files/Cain
                             108544 .a.b r/rrwxrwxrwx 0    0    9950-128-3 c:/Program Files/Cain/UNINSTAL.EXE
                             627 .acb r/rrwxrwxrwx 0    0    9951-128-1 c:/Program Files/Cain/Credits.txt
                             2064384 ...b r/rrwxrwxrwx 0    0    9952-128-3 c:/Program Files/Cain/Cain.exe
Fri Aug 20 2004 17:05:59      66 .acb r/rrwxrwxrwx 0    0    9953-128-1 c:/Program Files/Cain/Cain.exe.sig
                             26413 .acb r/rrwxrwxrwx 0    0    9954-128-3 c:/Program Files/Cain/Whats.new
                             312490 ..cb r/rrwxrwxrwx 0    0    9955-128-3 c:/Program Files/Cain/oui.txt
```

```
...
```



Examples of time stamps

- Microsoft Windows SYSTEMTIME

```
typedef struct _SYSTEMTIME {  
    WORD wYear;  
    WORD wMonth;  
    WORD wDayOfWeek;  
    WORD wDay;  
    WORD wHour;  
    WORD wMinute;  
    WORD wSecond;  
    WORD wMilliseconds;  
} SYSTEMTIME, *PSYSTEMTIME;
```



Examples of time stamps

- SQUID HTTP proxy, native format

```
1286536309.450    917 192.168.0.227 TCP_MISS/200 20670 GET http://www.youtube.com/watch? - DIRECT/209.85.231.136 text/html
1286536309.549    172 192.168.0.227 TCP_MISS/204 294 GET http://v15.c.youtube.com/generate_204? - DIRECT/122.160.120.150 text/html
1286536309.845    221 192.168.0.227 TCP_MISS/200 4035 GET http://il.ytimg.com/vi/LFV2ASSoEHI/default.jpg - DIRECT/209.85.153.118
1286536310.075    452 192.168.0.227 TCP_MISS/200 5067 GET http://il.ytimg.com/vi/TeYOZBVfnuY/default.jpg - DIRECT/209.85.153.118
1286536310.372    748 192.168.0.227 TCP_MISS/200 5230 GET http://i4.ytimg.com/vi/GldVBAqJHLY/default.jpg - DIRECT/209.85.153.118
```



Format of time stamps

	printable	binary
unpacked	syslog RFC 822 ISO 8601	SYSTEMTIME
packed	SQUID native log files	time_t FILETIME OLETIME



Format of time stamps

Calculation of a packed time value

- $v = (t - t_0) / u$
- v : time value
- t : time to express
- t_0 : Epoch
- u : Unit



Format of time stamps

Common packed formats

Name	Epoch	Unit	Data type
Unix/POSIX time	00:00:00 Jan 01, 1970	1 s	signed integer, 32 bit
Apple HFS Plus	00:00:00 Jan 01, 1904	1 s	unsigned integer, 32 bit
Windows .NET Ticks	00:00:00 Jan 01, 0001	100 ns	signed integer, 64 bit
Windows FILETIME	00:00:00 Jan 01, 1601	100 ns	unsigned integer, 64 bit
Windows OLE, Delphi	00:00:00 Dec 30, 1899	1 d	double, 64 bit
Julian Date (JD)	12:00:00 Jan 01, 4713 BC	1 d	real
Reduced Julian Date (RJD)	12:00:00 Nov 16, 1858		



How to find more time stamps?

Search for candidates

```
33 // scan file
34 local int64 pos = 0;
35 local int64 nMaxPos = FileSize() - nDateLength;
36 local uint64 probe;
37
38 while (pos <= nMaxPos) {
39     // read data at offset "pos"
40     FSeek(pos);
41     probe = ReadUInt64(pos);
42     if ((probe >= nLowerBound) && (probe <= nUpperBound)) {
43         // create bookmark
44         AddBookmark(
45             pos,
46             "",
47             "FILETIME",
48             -1,
49             cWhite,
50             cRed);
51         // advance the size of data found
52         pos = pos + nDateLength;
53     } else {
54         // advance one byte
55         pos++;
56     }
57 }
```



How to find more time stamps?

Search for candidates

The screenshot displays a debugger interface with two main windows: the Inspector and the Hex View.

Inspector Window:

Name	Value	Start
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1210h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	15EBh
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	16D8h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1752h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	17B0h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	182Ah
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1888h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1902h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1960h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	19DAh
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1A38h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1AB2h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1B10h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1B8Ah
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1BE8h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1C62h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1CC0h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1D3Ah
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1D98h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1E12h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1E70h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1EEAh
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1F48h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	1FC2h
FILETIME	05/05/2007 11:54:41	2020h

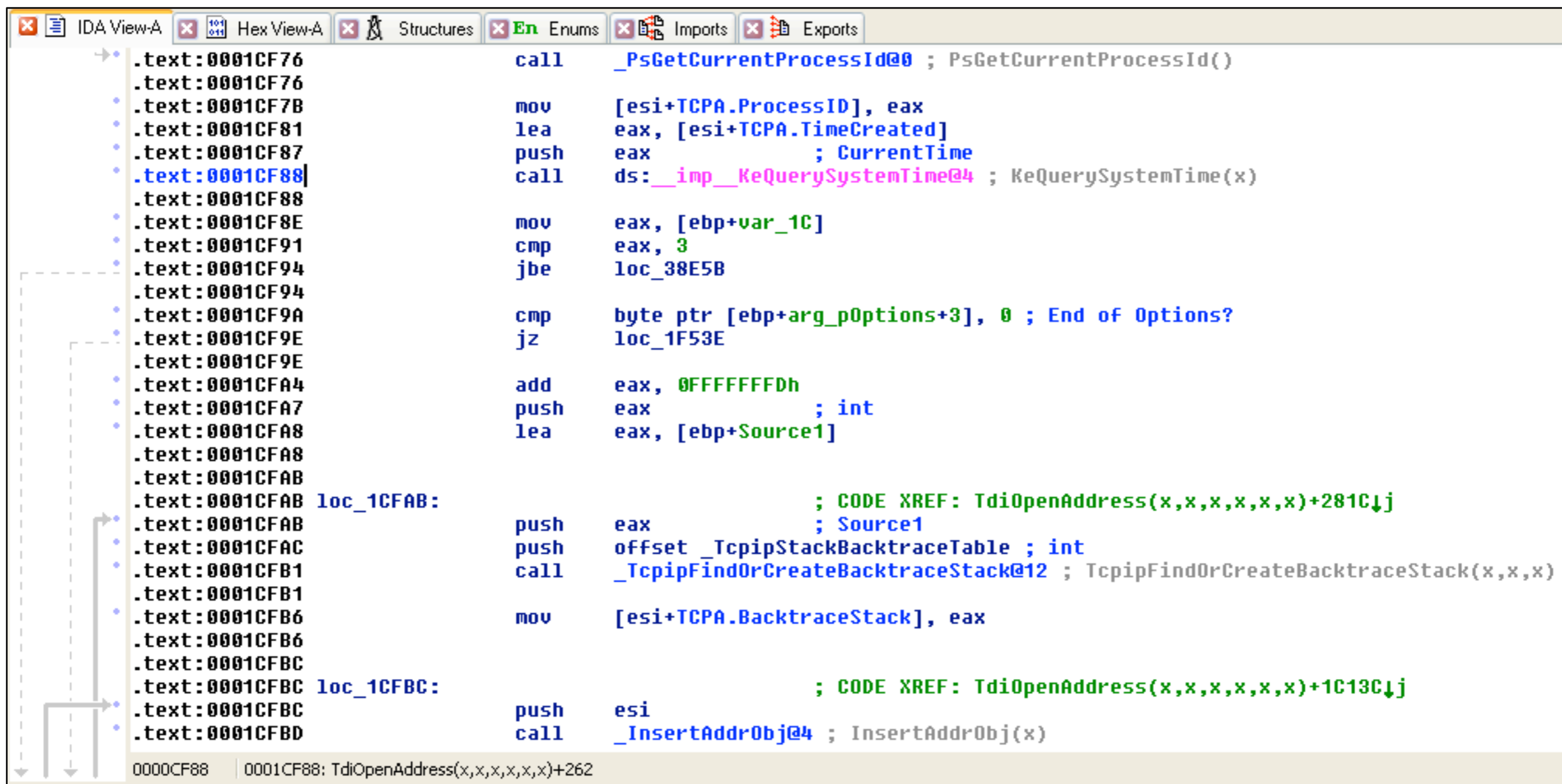
Hex View Window:

Time	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F	0123456789ABCDEF
17C0h:	0E	82	26	02	00	00	14	00	00	00	01	00	04	00	01	00	., &.....
17D0h:	04	00	02	00	06	00	02	00	06	00	02	00	06	00	08	00	.....
17E0h:	15	00	08	00	11	00	00	00	00	00	04	00	08	00	04	00	.....
17F0h:	08	00	08	00	0A	00	01	00	04	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
1800h:	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
1810h:	00	00	00	00	00	00	2D	00	21	00	04	00	00	00	03	00-!.....
1820h:	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	80	00	80	56	FA	29	0C	8F	.....€.(vú) ..
1830h:	C7	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	E0	00	00	00	00	00	ç.....à.....
1840h:	00	00	00	0F	01	01	00	0C	01	01	46	D3	EC	12	06	00	.....Fóí...
1850h:	00	03	00	00	00	0A	00	81	00	04	00	08	00	00	00	00	.....
1860h:	00	54	00	65	00	73	00	74	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.T.e.s.t.....
1870h:	00	04	04	00	D8	00	00	00	2A	2A	00	00	D8	00	00	00	....ø...**..ø...
1880h:	04	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	80	56	FA	29	0C	8F	C7	01	.....(vú) ..ç.
1890h:	0F	01	01	00	0C	01	90	F4	0E	82	26	02	00	00	14	00	.....ó., &.....
18A0h:	00	00	01	00	04	00	01	00	04	00	02	00	06	00	02	00	.....
18B0h:	06	00	02	00	06	00	08	00	15	00	08	00	11	00	00	00	.....
18C0h:	00	00	04	00	08	00	04	00	08	00	08	00	0A	00	01	00	.....
18D0h:	04	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
18E0h:	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	2D	00-.
18F0h:	21	00	04	00	00	00	04	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	!.....
1900h:	80	00	80	56	FA	29	0C	8F	C7	01	00	00	00	00	00	00	€.(vú) ..ç.....
1910h:	00	00	E1	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	0F	01	01	00	0C	..á.....
1920h:	01	01	46	D3	EC	12	06	00	00	03	00	00	00	0A	00	81	..Fóí.....
1930h:	00	04	00	08	00	00	00	00	00	54	00	65	00	73	00	74	.....T.e.s.t
1940h:	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	2E	00	D8	00	00	00	.....ø...
1950h:	2A	2A	00	00	D8	00	00	00	05	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	**..ø.....



How to find more time stamps?

Analyze applications



```
IDA View-A | Hex View-A | Structures | En Enums | Imports | Exports
0001CF76 call    _PsGetCurrentProcessId@0 ; PsGetCurrentProcessId()
0001CF76 mov     [esi+TCPA.ProcessID], eax
0001CF7B mov     [esi+TCPA.TimeCreated], eax
0001CF81 lea    eax, [esi+TCPA.TimeCreated]
0001CF87 push   eax ; CurrentTime
0001CF88 call   ds:__imp__KeQuerySystemTime@4 ; KeQuerySystemTime(x)
0001CF88
0001CF8E mov     eax, [ebp+var_1C]
0001CF91 cmp     eax, 3
0001CF94 jbe    loc_38E5B
0001CF94
0001CF9A cmp     byte ptr [ebp+arg_pOptions+3], 0 ; End of Options?
0001CF9E jz     loc_1F53E
0001CF9E
0001CFA4 add     eax, 0FFFFFFDh
0001CFA7 push   eax ; int
0001CFA8 lea    eax, [ebp+Source1]
0001CFA8
0001CFAB loc_1CFAB: ; CODE XREF: TdiOpenAddress(x,x,x,x,x,x,x)+281C↓j
0001CFAB push   eax ; Source1
0001CFAC push   offset _TcipStackBacktraceTable ; int
0001CFB1 call   _TcipFindOrCreateBacktraceStack@12 ; TcipFindOrCreateBacktraceStack(x,x,x)
0001CFB1
0001CFB6 mov     [esi+TCPA.BacktraceStack], eax
0001CFB6
0001CFBC loc_1CFBC: ; CODE XREF: TdiOpenAddress(x,x,x,x,x,x,x)+1C13C↓j
0001CFBC push   esi
0001CFBD call   _InsertAddrObj@4 ; InsertAddrObj(x)
```

0000CF88 | 0001CF88: TdiOpenAddress(x,x,x,x,x,x,x)+262



log2timeline

Data sources and output formats



log2timeline

- TSK mactime body file
- ASCII Timeline, TLN
- XML Timeline, TLNX
- Comma/Tab Separated Value
- SIMILE
- BeeDocs
- CyberForensics TimeLab



log2timeline

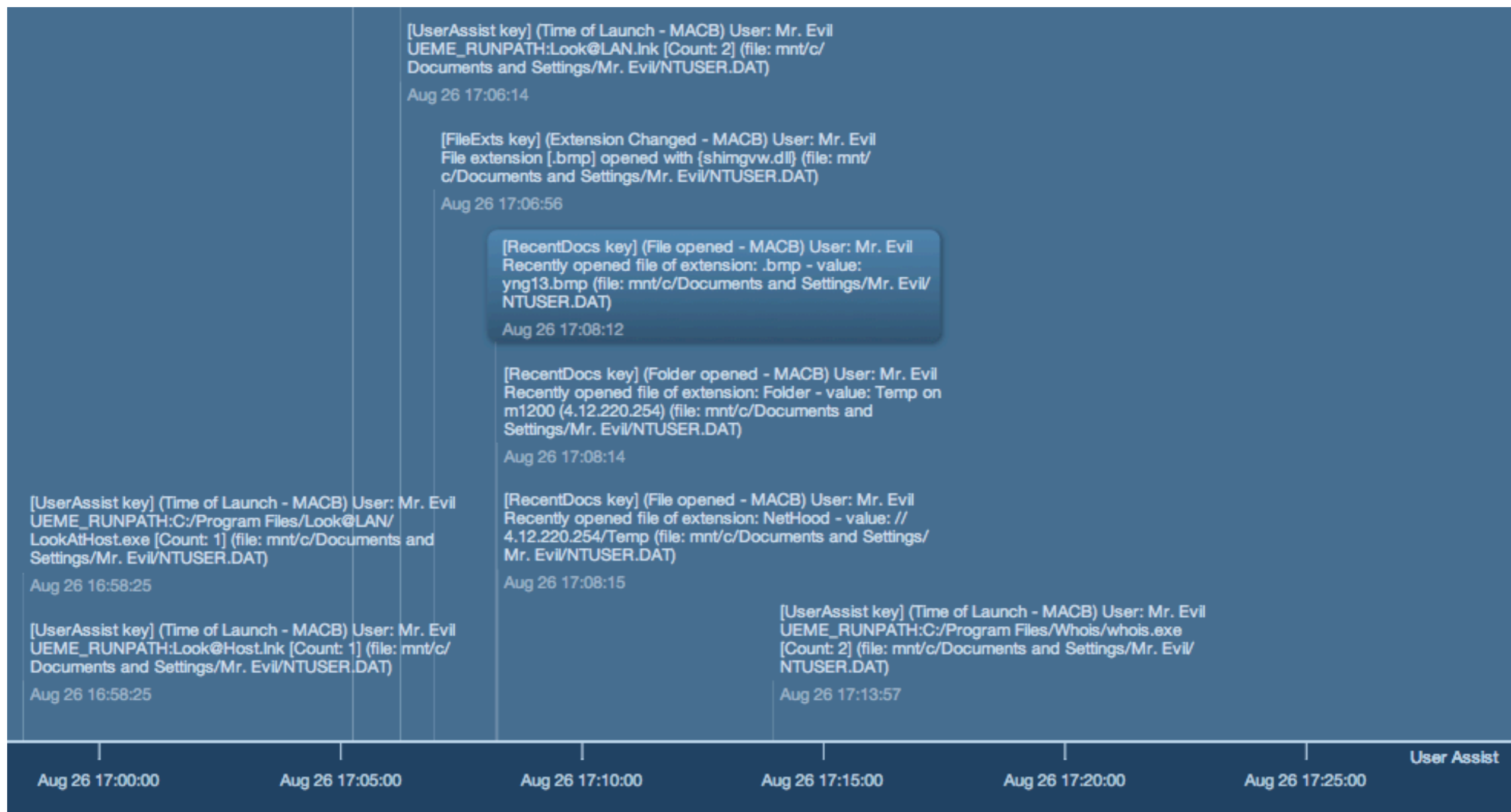
Usage

- get help
`log2timeline -h`
- get list of input/output/timezone options:
`log2timeline -f list`
`log2timeline -o list`
`log2timeline -z list`
- common invocation:
`log2timeline -z UTC -f evt -o sqlite -w example.db3
mnt/c/WINDOWS/system32/config`
- to scan a whole file system:
`timescanner -z UTC -f winxp -o simile -w example.xml
-d mnt/c`



Visualization

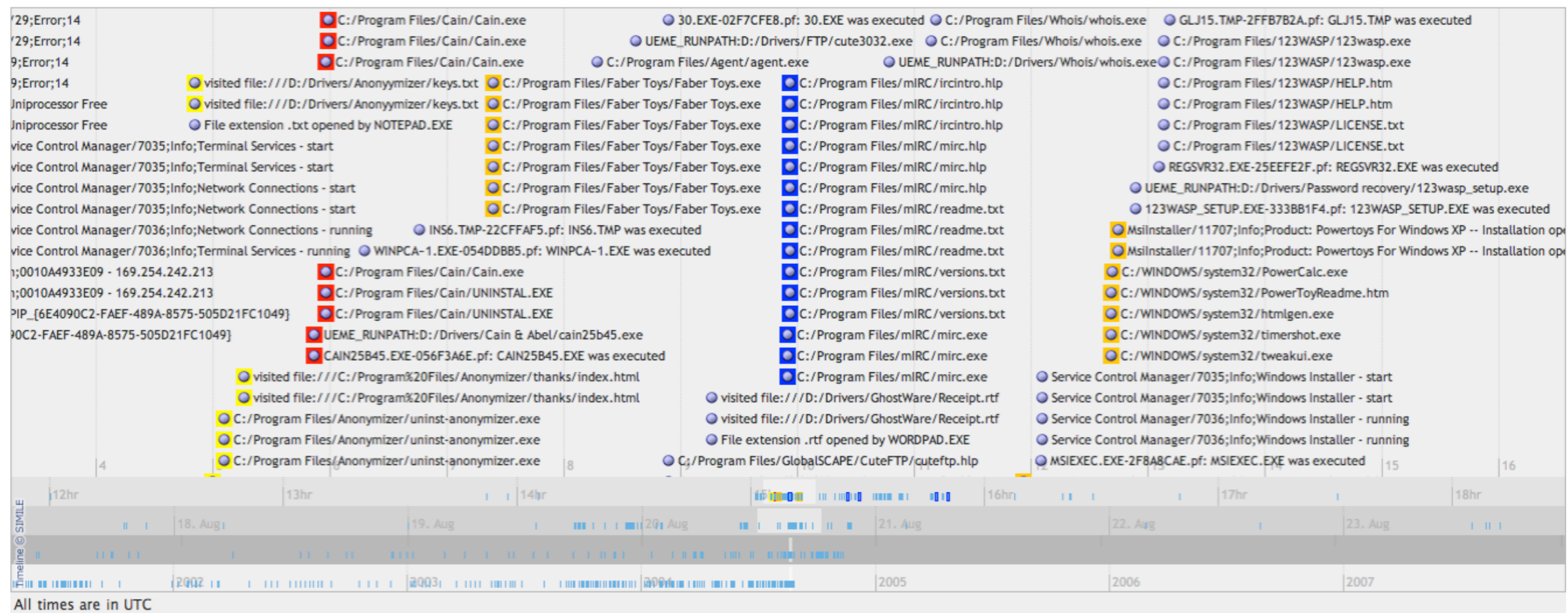
BeeDocs Timeline 3D



Visualization

SIMILE

This timeline was rendered from data of the CFREDS Schardt hacking case using SIMILE Timeline version 2.3.1 (with Ajax lib 2.2.1).



Filter:

Highlight:

Clear All



Visualization

SIMILE

The image shows a SIMILE visualization of a system's process tree. The main window displays a list of processes and their parent-child relationships. A tooltip is overlaid on the process `C:/WINDOWS/system32/timershot.exe`, providing detailed information about it.

Process List (Visible):

- `C:/WINDOWS/system32/timershot.exe` (highlighted in the tooltip)
- `C:/WINDOWS/system32/tweakui.exe`
- `Service Control Manager/7035;Info;Windows Installer - start`
- `Service Control Manager/7035;Info;Windows Installer - start`
- `Service Control Manager/7036;Info;Windows Installer - runni`
- `Service Control Manager/7036;Info;Windows Installer - runni`
- `MSIEXEC.EXE-2F8A8CAE.pf: MSIEXEC.EXE was executed`

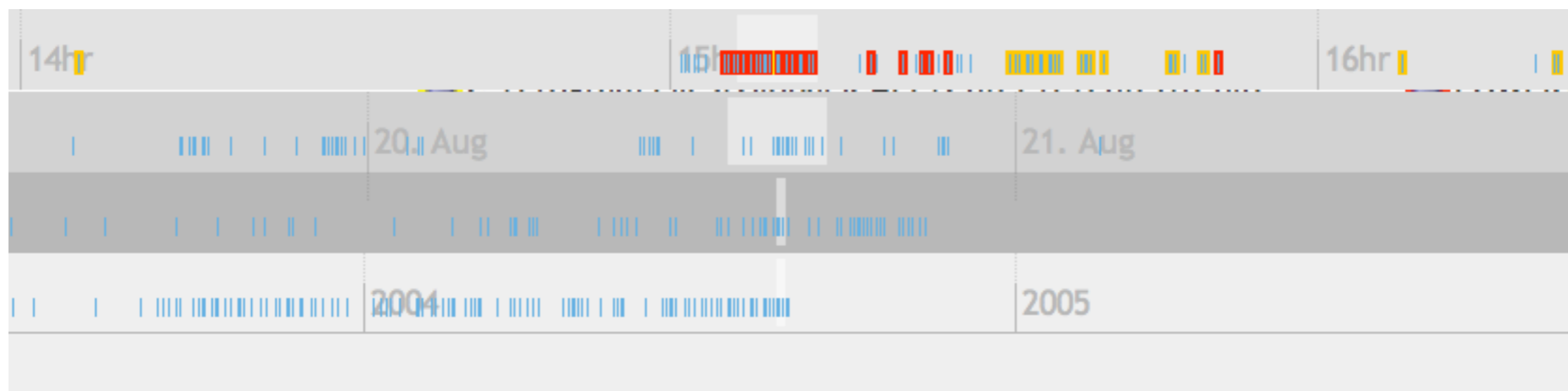
Tooltip Content:

C:/WINDOWS/system32/timershot.exe
[LNK] (Modified)
C:/WINDOWS/system32/timershot.exe <- mnt/c/Documents and Settings/All Users/Start Menu/Programs/Powertoys for Windows XP/TimerShot.lnk, which is stored on a local vol type - Fixed, SN 0x6cb18d9b - Desc: Take pictures at specified time intervals. Rel path: ../../../../../../WINDOWS/system32/timershot.exe [a rel. path str,a descr. str,SI ID exists,custom icon,points to a file or dir] - mod since last backup
Fri, 20 Aug 2004 15:12:41 GMT



Visualization

SIMILE



Highlight:

	http	.EXE	
--	------	------	--

Below the table, there are four colored bars: yellow, orange, red, and blue, corresponding to the four cells of the table above.



Visualization

SIMILE

```
2 function onLoad() {
3     var eventSource = new Timeline.DefaultEventSource();
4     var theme = Timeline.ClassicTheme.create();
5     theme.event.bubble.width = 250;
6
7     var date = "Fri 20 Aug 2004 15:09:56 GMT"
8     var bandInfos = [
9         Timeline.createBandInfo({
10             width: "85%",
11             intervalUnit: Timeline.DateTime.HOUR,
12             date: date,
13             intervalPixels: 200,
14             eventSource: eventSource,
15         }),
16         Timeline.createBandInfo({
17             width: "5%",
18             intervalUnit: Timeline.DateTime.DAY,
19             date: date,
20             intervalPixels: 200,
21             eventSource: eventSource,
22             overview: true,
23         }),
24         Timeline.createBandInfo({
25             width: "5%",
26             intervalUnit: Timeline.DateTime.MONTH,
```



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Thank you for your attention!

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